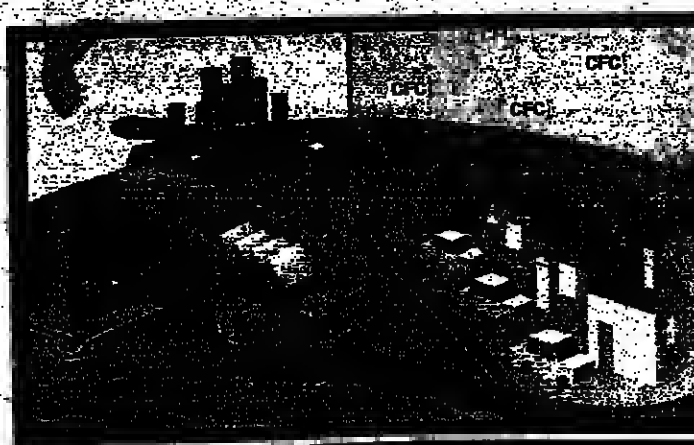


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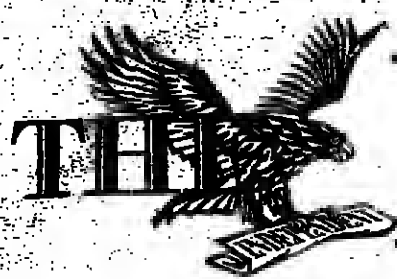
## OUR SCORCHED EARTH

Part one of a three-part series on how global warming will change your life  
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## RORY WHO?

Britain's most gifted Mimic interviewed  
Weekend, page 3



# THE INDEPENDENT

SATURDAY 30 MARCH 1996

50p

## New deal will fund care of elderly

Major pledge of state cash to ease hardship

DONALD MACINTYRE  
Political Editor

A pre-election initiative of a "pound-for-pound" deal with the private sector to promote the widespread use of individual insurance for long term care of the elderly is being planned by the Government.

John Major is expected today to give the strongest public indication yet that he favours policy under which the state will match long term provision provided by insurance companies to prevent the elderly in long term care losing their assets, including family homes.

The Prime Minister is likely to confirm in his keynote speech to the Conservative Central Council in Harrogate that the Government will produce a White Paper after Easter laying out detailed options for what all parties acknowledge is the serious problem of tackling the spiralling costs of the elderly in residential care.

He is preparing to treat the commitment to tackling the issue as a key section of the party's goal of making Britain a "Nation of Opportunity and Ownership", one of five themes the party will continue to emphasise between now and the general election.

Late drafts of Mr Major's speech, which will be finalised this morning as he returns from the opening of the Inter-Governmental Conference in Turin, include a pointed reference to long term care which will underline the Government's commitment to tackling the issue. Although the final details could await the manifesto, the Government may produce them well before then.

At present the state only meets the full costs of nursing home care if the individual's assets are worth less than £10,000. This means that the family home frequently has to be sold, and the life savings massively depleted, to ensure state provision. Ministers have already de-

cided in principle - as disclosed by the Independent - in favour of a scheme which would allow the elderly to keep their assets to the value of the private insurance cover which they had secured.

In other words, if a person gets £60,000 in insurance provision for residential nursing home care over three years, the government would allow them to keep £60,000 - instead of the current £10,000 - of their assets or savings, even though the state is paying for the rest of their provision.

At present the insurance industry calculates that such a level of provision could be provided with a lump sum premium, paid on retirement, of around £9,000.

The issue is highlighted in "Our Nation's Future", the document published this week on the findings of the most comprehensive consultation exercise carried out among the party's rank and file membership - and describing provision of long term care as a "matter of major concern to Conservatives".

Mr Major's emphasis on long term care will come in a wide-ranging speech setting out an electoral platform which will emphasise his determination to encourage an increase in academically selective schools.

Basing his speech on the five electoral themes - Opportunity and Ownership, Law and Order, Enterprise and Prosperity, Sovereign Nation, and First Class Public Services - Mr Major will also go out of his way to draw the line between Labour's view of Europe and support for devolution with the Tory view of Britain as a distinct and united nation state.

Yesterday the Cabinet's big guns, Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine, were wheeled out at the central council to emphasise the Tories' unifying concept of Britain as the "Enterprise Centre of Europe".

## Grand National alert for Aintree's big day



Racing home: Coulton (left) and Viking Flagship clear one of the fences during the second race at Aintree yesterday

Photograph: Robert Hallam

RICHARD EDMONDSON  
Racing Correspondent

There will be worried faces at Aintree this afternoon, not all of them belonging to jockeys who face the ultimate racing challenge of the Grand National.

In the wake of the Cheltenham Festival earlier this month, when 10 horses met their deaths, security has been

stepped up for the race some portray as the greatest killing field of them all.

Officers have been on 24-hour alert since Monday, patrolling the grounds and searching prominent locations on the course. More than 400 members of security will be on duty this afternoon, employing a closed-circuit television system.

There have been threats to disrupt today's events from animal rights protesters

and a milder message from the League Against Cruel Sports. "Events such as the Grand National are far too gruelling for the animals involved," Kevin Saunders, a spokesman, said yesterday. "We call on the racing authorities and the general public to recognise that it is unacceptable to ask any horse to forfeit its life in the name of sport."

With betting tax now down to 9 per

cent, bookmakers expect turnover to hold its own. The National is Britain's most popular sporting betting event. Betting shops are expected to handle more than £100m from 15 million people.

Only 28 runners are likely to line up this afternoon. Last night Ladbrokes had four joint-favourites on 7-1, in Rough Quest, Son Of War, Superior Finish and Young Hustler.

## Europe may lift ban on British beef on Monday

SARAH HELM  
AND JOJO MOYES

The possibility that the European ban on British beef could be lifted as early as Monday was signalled yesterday at the meeting of European leaders in Turin.

Amid resounding declarations of solidarity with Britain, the European heads of government held out the hope that the ban could be lifted as soon as a new British package of BSE-eradication measures is agreed by the European Commission.

It now seems likely that such a package will be ready for discussion by an emergency meeting of European agriculture ministers in Brussels on Monday.

Britain's hope is that European veterinary scientists would then make a speedy recommendation to the Commission



Major: Restoring confidence

to end the ban. "As soon as we have agreed the package we will be able to restore confidence. That confidence will be sufficient to lift the ban placed on British beef," said Mr Major.

Britain's European partners also pledged yesterday to give substantial financial assistance to the British beef industry, once

that package is approved. Jacques Santer, the Commission president said: "The community must play its role. We have shown our solidarity with the UK to combat this and to restore confidence in the market."

Jacques Chirac, the French President, said European leaders had shown "one hundred per cent solidarity with Britain".

British officials were in Brussels yesterday hammering out a programme for the phased slaughter of cattle, and a deal on Commission compensation. No figures were given but John Bruton, the Irish Prime Minister, said the programme being proposed by Britain would be "more dramatic" than measures in place so far.

Lamberto Dini, the Italian Prime Minister and president of the European Council, said the possibility of lifting the ban would be a "first priority" for

the agriculture ministers on Monday.

Speaking as if the beef crisis was past its worst, Mr Major repeated his criticism of the European export ban, and spoke of the "collective hysteria" which it had helped fuel in Britain and across the continent. "Everybody realised that panic merely breeds more panic," he said. The crisis had left "deep scars", said the Prime Minister. While the government remained adamant that the scientific evidence proved that British beef was safe, there were "lessons to be learned" about how to prevent hysteria in beef scares of the future which could happen anywhere in Europe.

Meanwhile, the lack of consumer confidence in British beef continued to manifest itself in stores across the country yesterday.

### IN BRIEF

**Bound to confuse**  
The law on public acts of sadomasochism was thrown into confusion after the manager of the "Whiplash" nightclub was cleared of keeping a disorderly house. Page 3

**Aids hunt**  
Doctors at a London hospital are monitoring 40 people in a search for someone immune to the Aids virus. Page 4

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ROBERT FISK

The Independent's Middle East Correspondent, was named Foreign Reporter of the Year in this week's British Press Awards

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## Prison chief wrongly sacked, says Howard

HEATHER MILLS  
Home Affairs Correspondent

In a continuing climbdown, Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, admitted he wrongly sacked Derek Lewis, the former head of the prison service, and will now pay up to £200,000 in compensation.

An agreement reached by the High Court yesterday is a victory for the former television chief, who has always claimed he was made the scapegoat for three dangerous men from Parkhurst prison on the Isle of Wight - only weeks after IRA terrorists had fled another top security prison.

The settlement, in what has been a personal and acrimonious battle between the two men, re-opens the thorny question about whether ministers

who decide prison policy, or civil servants, responsible for day to day operations, were to blame for the failures that led to the debacle.

Mr Lewis, who, from the moment he was dismissed last October made it clear he would not go quietly, immediately accused Mr Howard of wasting taxpayers' money. He said: "The attempt to distinguish between policy and operations was no more than a political sleight-of-hand - such a small figleaf that it was grossly indecent."

The former prison chief has issued his writ in the middle of a political storm over the running of the country's jails, claiming 12 occasions when Mr Howard intervened in operational duties - including the question of Private Lee Clegg being held following a right-wing press campaign to free

him. Those close to Mr Lewis claimed that if his action ever reached court it would damage Mr Howard even more.

Mr Lewis will now receive a year's salary of £125,000 but will fight for bonus and pension contributions worth £75,000.

"These legal proceedings should not have been necessary," he said. "This has been an open-and-shut case from the beginning and yet I have received no explanation for my dismissal or any apology."

Adding to Mr Howard's embarrassment yesterday was the news that he has still not been able to find a successor for the man he sacked. Headhunters have told the Home Office the task of finding suitable candidates to head the country's troubled jail system has been hampered by the treatment of Mr Lewis.

## Weapons that don't kill? Tell it to the marines

CHRIS BELLAMY  
Defence Correspondent

The US Marines, who have battled their way around the world with bayonets and bullets and true grit, are preparing to defend the free world with the latest in weapons technology -

These "non-lethal weapons" have long been regarded by military experts as virtually useless, but with the Pentagon deciding to increase its spending on them by \$5.2m to \$37.2m this year, the Marines will work with the other armed services and agencies such as the CIA to make equipment including the "12-gauge bean bag" and the "40mm foam rubber baton" a force to be reckoned with.

The Marine Corps, which fought long and hard for the honour of being chosen to expand "non-lethal warfare", believes that the weapons will be of great value, particularly in peacekeeping operations such as those in Bosnia and Somalia where minimum force has to be used to try to avoid alienating the local population.

And instead of practising their blood-curdling war cries the Marines will be instructed in the use of "bio-acoustic" weapons that cause a "digestive reaction" - in other words, they will be taught how to use machines that make low-frequency sounds which make people feel sick. It is not expected that the Marines will change their training chant from "I love my rifle" to "I love my bean bag".

The United States has already spent \$126,000 on a variety of non-lethal weapons which were to be used in Somalia, including a machine that lays down a wall of bubbles laced with tear gas and a cannon that fires a glue-soaked net designed to trap crowds of people. However, only sticky foam which made it difficult for rioters to move forward and pepper sprays were actually used.

The American authorities also spent \$283,000 on non-lethal weapons for the invasion of Haiti, including bean bags and rubber balls to trip people up, but did not use them.

There is, of course, another threat to the Marines' future foes: they might die laughing.

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## IN BRIEF

## can return to work

A psychiatric nurse convicted of rape 10 years ago and banned from practising has been told he can return to his profession, it has emerged. It is the second time in less than 12 months that a nurse struck off for rape has been re-instated.

The professional body for nursing, which last year promised a to re-examine procedures in the wake of the cases, is to carry out an urgent review after this week's ruling in the case of Yuen How Choy, 50. It claims there are no rules barring the restoration to the register of any nurse struck off following a crime. Choy served half of a two year prison sentence for rape in 1986. He was struck off from the United Kingdom Central Council for nurses in the same year.

## Asian police chief

Britain's first Asian assistant chief constable was appointed yesterday - to work with the police force's highest ranking woman, Mohammed Tariq Ghaffur, 40, was one of two assistant chief constables appointed to the Lancashire force, headed by Britain's first woman chief constable, Pauline Clare.

## Man held in siege

Armed police surrounded a house in Glasgow last night where three post office raiders were holding a 67-year-old man with a heart condition. Earlier, a man in his thirties and a four-year-old girl were released by the trio who earlier tried to rob a sub post office in nearby Torrance.

## Protester hurt in fall

A Newbury bypass protestor was seriously injured yesterday after plunging more than 40 feet from a tree branch. The demonstrator suffered back and chest injuries and was taken to hospital in Reading.

## £2m for teenager

Teenager Kevin Smith, 16, from Coventry, left severely brain damaged after being starved of oxygen during his birth, has won £2 million in compensation at London's High Court.

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## BACK ISSUES

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## Conservative Central Council: Good news as party funds improve but bad news as propaganda paper delayed Election boost as overdraft slashed

COLIN BROWN  
Chief political correspondent

The Tory Party's plans for fighting the General Election were given a boost last night by the disclosure that the party had slashed its overdraft by £2m to £2.5m.

Senior party sources claimed the cut in the £10.5m overdraft had been achieved by increased donations, mainly from small businesses, and individual

donors, opposed to Labour policies for a minimum wage, and the workers' rights under the European social charter. Some party sources said £10m had been received in donations over the past 12 months, from small businesses rather than large companies. "A range of people are giving sums which are substantial but not massive,"

The size of the reduction in the overdraft is certain to lead to speculation about the identity of the donors, who are being kept a secret by the Tory Party. Labour has protested at the Tories seeking financial support from foreign backers, but the sources confirmed a recent report in the Independent that more money is being raised in regional fund-raising events, including key businessmen in Yorkshire.

A party source admitted for the first time that the party was close to bankruptcy in 1993.

"We wondered whether we could pay the staff at the end of the month at least on two occasions, when we thought we could go bankrupt."

The turn-around was achieved by cuts in staffing at Conservative Central Office but the party chairman, Brian Mawhinney, said an increase in donations had reduced the overdraft with the Bank of Scotland. The Bank allowed the overdraft against the leasehold

on its Smith Square headquarters - the party sold the freehold in the 1980s - and never called in the loan. Sources said the bank was now "more relaxed".

"It means we will have a great deal more room for manoeuvre in the general election campaign. At the last election, we were dealing with a deficit of £11m; it was one of the reasons why we opted for a poster campaign and not advertisements in newspapers. It means

we can be much more flexible in our campaign next time," said the source.

The cut in the overdraft came as Tory activists warned membership was in decline in a meeting of the Conservative Central Council at Harrogate. Graham Pycock, a member of the Dulwich and West Norwood Tories, and press officer of the Tory Charter group, said the Labour Party membership was set to exceed the Tory party

membership for the first time. The Charter group is campaigning for one-member-one-vote democracy in the Tory Party, like Labour, to raise its membership.

Dr Mawhinney, Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Michael Heseltine, the deputy Prime Minister, tried to lift the morale of the conference of about 600 party workers by holding out the hope of an economic recovery.

The party's first Asian assistant chief constable was appointed yesterday - to work with the police force's highest ranking woman, Mohammed Tariq Ghaffur, 40, was one of two assistant chief constables appointed to the Lancashire force, headed by Britain's first woman chief constable, Pauline Clare.

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## New clash over referendum as Clarke digs in

DONALD MACINTYRE  
Political Editor

An imminent Cabinet row is looming next week after clear signs that Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, is still digging in over his opposition to promise a referendum on the single currency.

Mr Clarke, with the backing of Michael Heseltine, is still resisting powerful Cabinet pressure led by John Major to secure full backing for an early public commitment that Britain will not enter a referendum without a single currency.

The Chancellor is standing by his tough line despite strenuous efforts to secure a compromise by ensuring that the Cabinet would have to take collective responsibility for a decision to join a single currency and expressions of optimism by some Cabinet colleagues that they will succeed.

Although the final showdown has not yet been fixed for Wednesday, the last meeting of the Cabinet before the Commons' Easter recess, some Cabinet ministers are impatient to get the decision over with at that meeting.

A paper detailing the options of how to run such a referendum has already been prepared by Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary. The paper deals with such difficult questions as whether the referendum would take place before or after a decision by Parliament to approve EMU membership.

prove EMU membership, what the question would be, and above all whether all the members would have to campaign for a yes vote or resign for the Cabinet if it did take a decision to join a single currency.

Mr Clarke and Mr Heseltine are said to be deeply concerned that a concessions to these backbenchers on the Tory Eurosceptic right who have been pressing for a referendum promise will only result for wider demands and that it risks the party's European policy being "salami sliced" by concessions both to backbenchers and to the strident demands of Sir James' Goldsmith's referendum party. There have been fears that Mr Clarke could yet threaten to resign over the issue. The group of eight former "whippers" backbenchers last week did indeed follow Sir James' example by calling for a referendum on wider European issues than one limited solely to the single currency.

Hopes of a compromise rest with Mr Major's personal view that any referendum should carry collective responsibility - unlike the 1975 referendum in which Harold Wilson, the then Prime Minister, allowed his Cabinet ministers according to their own views without risking their jobs.

If there was collective responsibility that would mean that Eurosceptics would have to resign if they wanted to campaign against British EMU membership.



Family affair: 'It is not my job to argue with my daughter,' Mr Heseltine said yesterday

## Heseltine snubs his daughter's views on drugs

COLIN BROWN

Michael Heseltine last night disowned the views of his own daughter, Annabel, after she called for the legalisation of drugs.

The Deputy Prime Minister brushed off her remarks as nothing more than a youthful indiscretion. "She's an adult. It's not my job to argue with my daughter and try to second guess my daughter," he said as he was challenged about her remarks. "You would not do it to your daughter," he told journalists at the Conservative Party central council in Harrogate, North Yorkshire.

Mr Heseltine suggested that his daughter was following her career as an ambitious journalist. "She has a career of her own. She has expressed her own views."

Her account in the *Daily Mail* of being offered a "sweet-smelling marijuana" joint at a dinner party, had clearly upset his breakfast.

Ms Heseltine added: "Drugs have long been part of my life, although I am not a user."

She said she had been exposed to recreational drug-taking throughout her adult life. "I had dinner parties in New York, cocaine came out first with the drinks, later with the coffee."

She wrote: "I have become convinced that legalisation could be the answer to our drugs crisis."

"It would not make drugs less socially acceptable, but it might

lead to control of something which currently seems uncontrollable."

Mr Heseltine is not the first minister to be embarrassed by his daughter.

Sir Nicholas Scott, the former social security minister, and his daughter, Victoria, had a public clash of views over provision for the disabled. However, the timing of Ms Heseltine's intervention could hardly be worse - coming a day before Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, tells the conference about the Tories' plans for a fresh crackdown on drug dealers.

And Mr Heseltine had been quick to criticise Clare Short, the shadow Transport Secretary, when she suggested that legalisation of soft drugs should be considered.

It was astonishing, he said then, that "someone who could be a minister of the Crown should actually want to legalise drugs."

But after making it clear he did not support his daughter's views, Mr Heseltine insisted: "I am very proud of her. She has her own views. I will not get involved in controversy with her. That should make things easier when he gets back to the Heseltine household."

## concise crossword

No. 2948 Saturday, 30 March

By Phil

**DOWN**

1. Cle (3)  
2. (15)  
3. Stick (8)  
4. (8) to eat (12)  
5. In k equivalent of bicury (6)  
6. (16)  
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21. (12)

**Across**

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21. (12)

**Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword:**  
Across: 1. Rags, 2. War (Rag), 3. Vain, 4. Saviour, 5. Time-gallant hat, 6. Adled, 7. Abuse, 8. Awe-inspiring, 9. Congress, 10. Even, 11. Net, 12. Above, 13. Down, 14. Rags, 15. Rag, 16. Rag, 17. Rag, 18. Rag, 19. Rag, 20. Rag, 21. Rag.

**Notes**

## Weather forecast

**NOON FORECAST**

High T. 15.5, Low T. 12.5, Wind S.W. 10-15 mph, Clouds 10-20%.

**WORLD WEATHER**

Location	Temp	Wind	Clouds
London	15.5	10-15	10-20%
Paris	14.5	10-15	10-20%
Madrid	13.5	10-15	10-20%
Rome	12.5	10-15	10-20%
Amsterdam	11.5	10-15	10-20%
Brussels	10.5	10-15	10-20%
Frankfurt	9.5	10-15	10-20%
Berlin	8.5	10-15	10-20%
Munich	7.5	10-15	10-20%
Vienna	6.5	10-15	10-20%
Zurich	5.5	10-15	10-20%
Geneva	4.5	10-15	10-20%
Basel	3.5	10-15	10-20%
Stuttgart	2.5	10-15	10-20%
Düsseldorf	1.5	10-15	10-20%
Cologne	0.5	10-15	10-20%
Dortmund	-0.5	10-15	10-20%
Essen	-1.5	10-15	10-20%
Duisburg	-2.5	10-15	10-20%
Münster	-3.5	10-15	10-20%
Bielefeld	-4.5	10-15	10-20%
Osnabrück	-5.5	10-15	10-20%
Wuppertal	-6.5	10-15	10-20%
Solingen	-7.5	10-15	10-20%
Remscheid	-8.5	10-15	10-20%
Witten	-9.5	10-15	10-20%
Unna	-10.5	10-15	10-20%
Bochum	-11.5	10-15	10-20%
Enschede	-12.5	10-15	10-20%
Arnhem	-13.5	10-15	10-20%
Utrecht	-14.5	10-15	10-20%
Amsterdam	-15.5	10-15	10-20%
Rotterdam	-16.5	10-15	10-20%
The Hague	-17.5	10-15	10-20%
Brussels	-18.5	10-15	10-20%
Paris	-19.5	10-15	10-20%
London	-20.5	10-15	10-20%

**INDEPENDENT WEATHERLINE**

Lightning-up times: London 1.30, Manchester 1.40, Birmingham 1.50, Cardiff 2.00, Belfast 2.10, Glasgow 2.20, Edinburgh 2.30, Liverpool 2.40, Newcastle 2.50, Nottingham 3.00, Oxford 3.10, Plymouth 3.20, Reading 3.30, Southampton 3.40, Swansea 3.50, Wolverhampton 4.00.

**AIR QUALITY**

Yesterday's readings: London Good, Manchester Good, Birmingham Good, Cardiff Good, Belfast Good, Glasgow Good, Edinburgh Good, Liverpool Good, Newcastle Good, Nottingham Good, Oxford Good, Plymouth Good, Reading Good, Southampton Good, Swansea Good, Wolverhampton Good.

**OUTLOOK FOR TODAY**

London Good, Manchester Good, Birmingham Good, Cardiff Good, Belfast Good, Glasgow Good, Edinburgh Good, Liverpool Good, Newcastle Good, Nottingham Good, Oxford Good, Plymouth Good, Reading Good, Southampton Good, Swansea Good, Wolverhampton Good.

## Tabloid newssheet shelved

COLIN BROWN  
Chief Political Correspondent

The bad news about BSE in British beef claimed another victim in Harrogate yesterday - a Tory party tabloid dedicated to spreading the "good news".

The first edition was due to be launched at the Conservative Party's spring conference in the town by Brian Mawhinney, the chairman of the party.

It was to carry lively pieces extolling the virtues of the British economy, with good news about the amount of overseas investment being made in Britain.

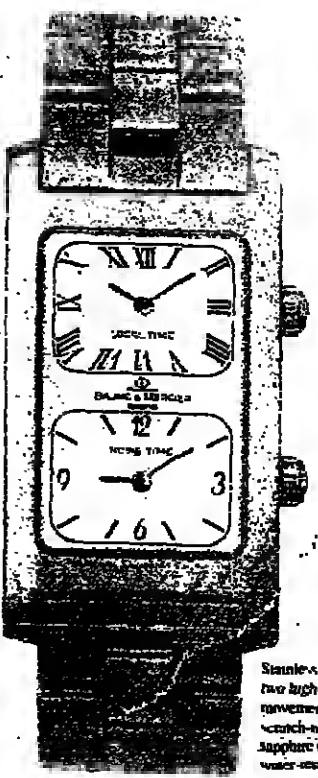
There was also to be an overseas section with reports from abroad on what the foreigners are saying about Britain.

Edited by a former *Daily Express* deputy editor, one insider said: "It was classic than most of the mid-market tabloids." Unkind critics said it was like the *Daily Express* but with less Tory propaganda.

The brainchild of Sir Tim Bell and Maurice Satchi, the Tory Party's advertising advisers, it followed the political Cabinet meeting ten days ago which pondered over the mystery of why the good news in the economy was not translating into a "feelgood factor".

They decided that if Fleet Street would no longer print the good news about Britain, they would do it themselves. Their foray into journalism proved short lived. Tory spin-doctors claimed the decision had been taken for "technical reasons". But a source said: "It was the beef that did it. They thought that the good news wouldn't work."

Tomorrow,  
the new Hampton  
will be on  
both summer



and winter time.

**BAUME & MERCIER**  
GENEVE



# Club manager cleared over 'disorderly house'

S&M court case sets precedent for intervention by police

JAMES CUSICK

The criminal law which governs the right of consenting adults to take part in public acts of sadomasochism was thrown into confusion yesterday after the manager of the "whiplash" nightclub was cleared at Southwark Crown Court of keeping a disorderly house.

Martin Church, 36, of Sutton, Surrey, had told the court during his two-week trial that leather and rubber-clad revellers at the club enjoyed what they were doing and had a good time.

The basement nightclub, known as the Reflex Club on non-sadomasochistic nights, was raided by 60 police officers, some with dogs, in October 1994.

The raid was the culmination of an inquiry by vice-squad officers who hired leather outfits to infiltrate the S&M sub-culture.

In court the officers told of hundreds of largely middle-aged "fetishist" men and women indulging in a variety of lewd acts. Constable Graham Munro said he frequently saw men and women being beaten.

The court also heard instances where one man, dressed as a schoolgirl, was whipped repeatedly after being tied to a 6ft high padded cross. The beating was so hard, it was claimed, it drew blood.

Mr Church denied that the activities that had gone on in his club were as the Crown had claimed. He admitted customers at the Club Whiplash evenings were required to observe a "strict" dress code of fetishist gear and agreed: "Yes, I saw beatings, whippings and

spankings." But he insisted people were not screaming, moaning or crying out. He said there was no blood, no welts, no "areas of reddening".

The jury's decision followed an address by Mr Church's counsel, Paul Higham. He said: "This is a test case in 1996 on how far a jury are prepared to permit the criminal law to control and punish the acts of consenting adults, and therefore a crucial issue for civil liberties."

The verdict re-opens the legal arguments that arose from the case in 1990 known as "Op-

**'What outrages the sense of morality was mass genocide in Bosnia, not the behaviour of consenting adults'**

eration Spanner" where convictions were obtained on 16 men who had privately engaged in acts of agreed mutilations on each other. They had been charged with aiding and abetting assaults on themselves.

After the case yesterday Mr Higham said the jury "clearly felt that even if the prosecution's allegations were carried out, in 1996 what outrages the sense of morality was the mass genocide in Bosnia not the behaviour of consenting adults in relative privacy".

In his summing-up, Judge Peter Jackson told the jury: "One thing you will have to consider in this case is are you sure certain things happened, and if

those things did happen, do they outrage public decency."

Civil liberties campaigner Nettie Pollard described the jury's verdict as a "land mark decision".

Ms Pollard, spokeswoman for Liberty, formerly the National Council for Civil Liberties, said: "We very much welcome the decision and hope there will be no police harassment in the future."

She added: "This is a victory for civil liberties in Britain. Even if it had been a guilty verdict it was a victimless crime - everyone had consented to what was going on."

"The central issue is to what extent the criminal law should interfere in people's private lives. This [case] is important because it provides the test and answer."

Mr Church had been brought to court under a 250-year-old law - the Disorderly Houses Act. During the trial the police undercover officers described in graphic detail scenes of public sexual intercourse, oral sex, masturbation, all performed to a background of hard porn videos. However during the trial the police's evidence was challenged by members of the S&M club.

Dr Michael Jack Frost, a 60-year-old retired lecturer in geology, is a member of the Whiplash Club and was on the premises on the night of the police raid. He said he saw the video, which was "tame", but none of the other acts described by police.

Another middle-aged club member, Alison Ord, said she felt safer in Club Whiplash than in many other night clubs she had visited.

Top price for painting that awoke from 100-year slumber



Windfall: Boreas, an oil painting by the Victorian artist John William Waterhouse which was believed lost for almost 100 years, sold for nearly £850,000 at Christie's in London yesterday, more than double the expected price

## Cyprus killing soldiers get life

REBECCA FOWLER

The three British soldiers found guilty of sexually assaulting and killing a young Danish woman working as a tour guide in Cyprus, were sentenced to life imprisonment yesterday.

Justin Fowler, 28, Allan Ford, 27, and Geoff Pernell, 23, The soldiers, all Royal Green Jackets, bundled Louise Jensen, 23, into their car in September 1994, and took her to a remote spot where they attempted to rape her before bludgeoning her to death with a spade.

The attack was the horrific culmination of a drunken binge at a nearby resort, and Ms Jensen was so disfigured that she had to be identified through dental records.

Sentencing the men to a further five years for abduction and another five years for conspiracy to rape, the court president Takis Eliades, told them they were responsible for one of the most brutal crimes the island had ever known. He said: "The tragic victim, alone and unprotected, had no possibility of defending herself."

Poul Jensen, the dead woman's father, said afterwards: "This was the best sentence we could have hoped for."

The soldiers were automatically discharged from the force at the moment of sentencing. They have not received wages for months, but they have been paid an allowance and the Ministry of Defence will pay their legal fees, which are expected to exceed £100,000.

Brigadier Arthur Denaro, Deputy Commander of British forces in Cyprus, said: "We can't take a number of lessons - clearly, education of troops, closer supervision, a tighter chain of command."

"But nevertheless we must not get this incident out of perspective. Horrible though it was, one would hope it was one in many millions."

## Aid worker accused of stealing child in baby smuggling racket

A British aid worker accused of smuggling an infant out of a Romanian orphanage claimed last night he was the victim of a corrupt political and legal system.

John Boast, a former businessman, appeared before a Romanian court to admit he had taken the 15-month-old child from a hospital orphanage but denied he had hidden her in his lorry or brought her to Britain for adoption. The 46-year-old father of three, from Blackburn, Lancs, also denied he had been the middleman who handed the child to a British family at a motorway service station as part of a baby-smuggling racket.

The child, who can only be identified as baby Laura because she has been made a ward of court, has been legally adopted by a family in Yorkshire. Mr Boast admits he believes it was in the child's best interests to be taken out of Romania.

He said yesterday: "It doesn't matter what I say in the court; they already have decided to find me guilty to make an example of me. I am a victim of



John Boast: Denies part baby-smuggling racket

a judicial and political system which is completely upside down. By punishing me they are in reality punishing the children that I have been helping since 1990."

Outside the court Mr Boast denied he had been running a baby-smuggling ring for profit. "I came out here because I was touched by the plight of the orphans," Mr Boast yesterday appeared in court in the north

Romanian city of Oradea for the first time formally to plead not guilty to a charge of conspiring to transport the child out of the country. If found guilty he faces five years' jail.

The prosecution case was outlined to an examining judge, who adjourned the hearing for a month to allow Mr Boast to "prove his innocence". The court heard how he had been on more than 40 aid trips to Romania with his lorry since 1990.

Oradea district prosecutor Lucian Negrutiu said Mr Boast had also regularly visited the city's main hospital, home to more than 450 abandoned and orphaned children.

Mr Boast told the examining judge, Dumitru Marc: "I would like you to understand a little about the child. She was 15 months old... but did not look that age because she was not well fed and had been neglected. When I saw her sitting in her bed rocking backwards and forwards, I did what any normal parent would do: I picked her up and took her out for a walk to talk to her."

Mr Boast, who now lives with his Romanian girlfriend in the village of Finis, 40 miles from Oradea, said he had taken baby Laura out of the hospital "because I wanted to take care of her. She had been abandoned and needed affection; she needed loving." Mr Boast said he took the child out for nearly four hours and claimed he returned her the same evening. It was not until five weeks later that the child's absence was noticed by hospital staff, after being told about her by British Embassy officials in Bucharest.

Baby Laura had been discovered by a social worker on a routine visit to the Yorkshire family who already have an adopted Romanian orphan. The couple would only reveal they had been given the child "by a man named John" who handed her over at the Watford Gap service station on the M1.

The British Embassy was then asked to investigate the case by the Official Solicitor.

The child's parents were traced and admitted they had abandoned her.

## Bosses plump for London

NICOLE VEASH

London is one of the world's most expensive cities for executive housing and living costs: a house in the desirable centre of the city could cost up to four times the annual executive salary, according to a survey.

The lifestyle and cost comparisons between 11 of the world's main cities find property in London is costly to buy and rent but school fees are reasonable and the quality of life is good.

Lorna Vestey, of the estate agents Knight Frank, who did the survey, said demand for good housing in the capital is high but there was not a lot of it. "London has a very limited city centre in terms of size, and people from all over the world want to live here because it is a very pleasurable area. But our housing costs are generally in line with America, so international executives are not too put off by the prices."

A young married couple in their mid-thirties with a five-year-old child and a salary of about £150,000 could buy a four-bedroom house in Chelsea for £590,000 and spend £5,000 a year

on school fees. Typically, they would employ a nanny or au pair, take holidays in far-flung destinations and belong to a social/health or country club.

The survey, comparing executive lifestyles in such places as New York, Paris, Bombay and Tokyo, is based on the earnings of an investment banker or lawyer living in a typical executive home. In Madrid a four-bedroom house costs £230,000; in Hong Kong it would sell for £1.2m. Lifestyle in Paris is difficult to match because of free state schooling, though property is expensive compared to other cities.

School fees in Hong Kong, San Francisco and Sydney account for 2 to 5 per cent of annual earnings, while New Yorkers have to pay a more damaging 8 per cent.

A spokesman for the SBC Warburg bank said: "We have a global network of offices and we find the prices of renting or buying houses in London unsurprising."

Sydney and San Francisco win hands down in the world city stakes, with clean air, a safe environment, reasonable property prices and a sunny lifestyle.

## Police 'ignore calls for hours'

JASON BENNETTO  
Crime Correspondent

Complaints about hawls, domestic disputes and rowdy youths, often go ignored for hours by police in Derbyshire because of years of understaffing, a report revealed yesterday. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary also found that during some peak periods no officers were available to answer calls from the public.

In some cases the police took so long to respond to calls about people or vehicles acting suspiciously that by the time they arrived the suspects had disappeared. The lack of police officers and resources in Derbyshire has also meant that many more violent offenders and car thieves are escaping detection. The drug squad is so hard up that at the time of the inspection it only had £300 to buy petrol for five months.

The Inspectorate warned of evidence that the financial problems facing Derbyshire were getting worse. The problems are blamed on underfunding since the early 1980s,

which has caused an increasing shortfall in officers and resources.

The Inspectorate says that current £88m budget from the Home Office would be more than adequate if the force was in a good financial position, but it is not enough to reverse the downward trend.

Derbyshire has been struggling to maintain its current police strength of 1,800, which has fallen as low as 1,768. People in Derbyshire had grown to accept the decline in standards, the Inspectorate said.

On a positive note there was a significant improvement in dealing with house burglaries which had dropped by 23 per cent. But using resources to deal with this crime had resulted in fewer robberies, assaults and car thefts being solved.

A spokeswoman for Derbyshire police force said: "The only way out is for the Home Office to give us more money."

David Maclean, the Home Office Minister, said Derbyshire had been given extra funding for a number of years and an additional £4m in 1996/7.



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حكي من الاصل



news

# UK researchers investigating Aids immunity

GLENDIA COOPER

Doctors at a London hospital are monitoring 40 British people in a search for someone who is immune to the Aids virus.

The researchers at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital are studying people who have had repeated exposure to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) but have remained resistant to infection. They hope to report their findings within the year.

Yesterday it was announced that scientists in the US have discovered that Steve Crohn, from New York, has the first known substance in the world that will defeat HIV. Scientists at the Aaron Diamond Aids Research Center in New York took his white blood cells known as CD4 cells, which are the particular target of HIV, cultured them in the laboratory and tried unsuccessfully to infect them with HIV.

The 40 people being studied in Britain were recruited about a year ago through advertising in HIV clinics and newspapers.

"There were three components we looked for," said Dr Philippa Easterbrook, senior

lecturer in infectious diseases and epidemiology. "Firstly that they should have been exposed fairly recently - within the last year. Second, they should have had a very significant level of exposure over a two-year period and third that they should have had an HIV test recently."

Dr Easterbrook said in the past there had been various explanations put forward as to why people did not become infected with HIV, including the fact that they could have been infected by someone who had low-level infection, or a weak form of the virus or that although they were infected it had not shown up in the antibodies.

She said the most recent data made it likely that immune response was an "important explanation", but she added: "We're a long way from picking up information for a specific vaccine but this data clearly has long term implications."

She called for more studies to be undertaken looking at the offspring of infected mothers who did not go on to develop the virus, partners of haemophiliacs who had been given infected blood, and

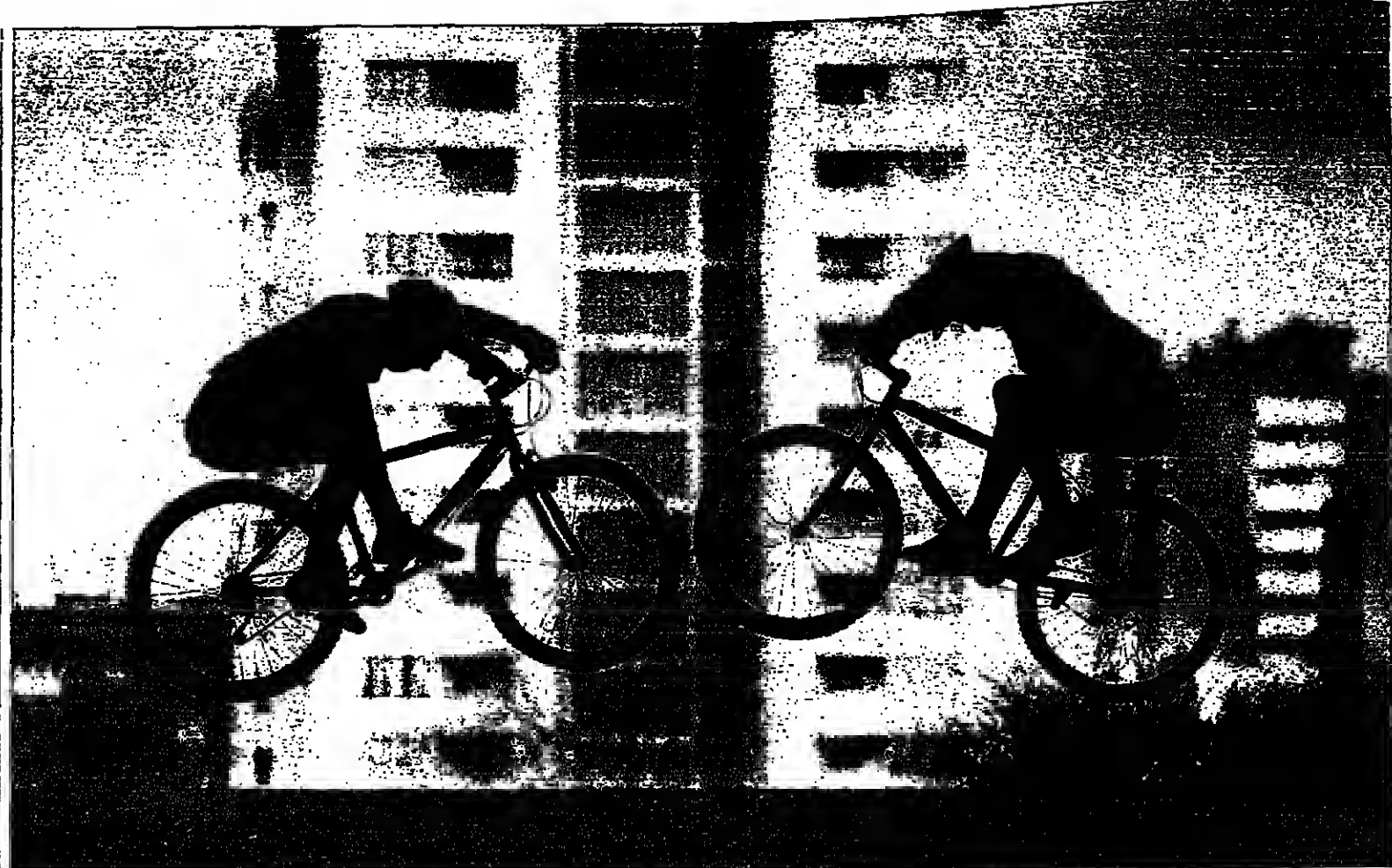
exposed health care workers.

Professor Frances Gotch, head of immunology at the Chelsea and Westminster, said the US findings were "extremely interesting" and showed "for the first time certain people are non-susceptible to the virus - that gives us hope for a vaccine."

Separate research in Gambia, the result of a collaboration between the Medical Research Council and the Institute of Molecular Medicine in Oxford, showed that some prostitutes had also not succumbed to the virus despite their lifestyles.

"From our research we believed that individual cases who were non-susceptible but had had high exposure were transiently infected," said Professor Gotch. "This gave the body time before CD4 cells were infected which gave other cells the chance to kick in an immune response. This would be the same effect as having a vaccine."

A spokesman for the Terrence Higgins Trust said: "We are cautiously optimistic. Hopefully it will be a small step on the long road to finding a vaccine or effective treatment."



Chain gang: Trick riders warming up yesterday in Chiswell, London, for the Mountain Biking UK Awards, run in conjunction with Bike '96, the biggest public bicycle exhibition in Britain, which is being held at Olympia

## Woman jailed over £500,000 bank swindle

ROB CRANE

A housewife who swindled almost half a million pounds out of a bank by impersonating a rich elderly customer was yesterday jailed for two years.

Sally Ann Corby was part of a sophisticated gang of fraudsters which, armed with inside information, stole £490,000 from the account of Joan Lee.

Corby, 55, wore a grey wig for her visits to Barclays bank in New Malden, south-west London. On her final visit she arrived in a chauffeur-driven limousine and left with £300,000 of Mrs Lee's cash and £150,000 of her jewellery.

The court heard that Corby, who had already extracted £40,000 before the final visit and was receiving income support, played her role with "considerable panache".

Passing sentence the Recorder of London, Sir Lawrence Verney, told her:

"Having made yourself up to look like the account holder and successfully practised her signature, you presented yourself to the bank and deceived the manager very easily. You exhibited great composure, whatever you felt internally."

Corby was involved in another swindle after recruiting Gwen Cox, 39, a boatyard manager. They took £30,000 from the account of a wealthy New York recluse, Lady Monique Caro, before being caught.

Cox, who received just £1,000 from the gang, was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment, suspended for 18 months, after admitting two charges of theft and one of attempted theft.

Corby, who had been recruited to the gang by a family friend, wanted to use the £500,000 she received for her role to renovate her derelict cottage in Northam, north Devon.

The scheme's alleged mastermind is still on the run.

## Top union 'fat cat' gets £300,000-a-year package

BARRIE CLEMENT  
Labour Editor

Britain's highest paid union leader, Gordon Taylor, chief executive of the Professional Footballers' association, now receives a package worth nearly £300,000 a year, it was revealed yesterday.

Mr Taylor, whose 2,600-strong organisation recently joined the Trades Union Congress, receives pay and benefits of £295,741, according to the annual report of the Government's Certification Office.

The union covers professional football players with a wider range of wages than any other TUC affiliate. Some league players are on as little as £15,000 a year in division three, but Mr Taylor's income is dwarfed by the £1.5m a year received by some of the premier league stars.

The document also revealed that Arthur Scargill, president

of the National Union of Mineworkers, was receiving total remuneration of £62,526 a year. The salary of the miners' leader, who as general secretary of the Union public service union when the figures were collated in 1994 was on £77,546; and Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, who received a package worth £76,404.

John Edmonds, leader of the GMB general union and Bill Morris, general secretary of the Transport and General, were among the highest paid representatives of blue-collar workers, enjoying packages of £73,000 and £71,213, respectively. John Monks, general secretary of the TUC, received £66,120.

The Certification Office also recorded that union membership had fallen to its lowest level since the Second World War. In 1994, it fell to 8,230,545, from a peak in 1979 at 13.2 million. Fewer than one in three employees are now trade unionists.

Other "fat cats" among top trade unionists were Christine Hancock, leader of the Royal College of Nursing, on £83,501; Alan Jinkinson, who as general secretary of the Union public service union when the figures were collated in 1994 was on £77,546; and Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, who received a package worth £76,404.

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## Father's £1m award cut

A father who saw his daughters drown after their nanny drove the family car into a river, had his record £1.3m award for damages awarded cut almost in half by the Court of Appeal.

Three appeal judges yesterday reduced 53-year-old Peter Vernon's pay-out to just over £620,000, and said he must also pay his share of the legal costs, which total more than £2m. Much of Mr Vernon's damages will go straight back to the Legal Aid Board, which funded his marathon claim.

In August 1992, Mr Vernon suffered "every parent's worst nightmare" when the family Volvo, with nanny Katherine Bosley at the wheel, plunged into the River Tawe at Ynys Isaf.

Powys. Inside the car were Sophie Beloe, daughter of a family friend, his two daughters - Theresa, aged three, and Philippa, seven, - along with the family Labrador, Sheba, all of whom died. Miss Bosley escaped through the driver's window.

Mr Vernon, who arrived at the scene soon afterwards, had to watch helplessly as vain efforts were made to save the children.

In January last year, a High Court judge, Mr Justice Sedley, awarded Mr Vernon, of Kingscot, Tetbury in Gloucestershire, more than £1.3m damages against Miss Bosley's insurer - General Accident - which admitted liability.

The judge said the accident had destroyed Mr Vernon's marriage, leaving him a "helpless and dependent" shadow of his former self, and the damages award was a record pay-out for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

At the Court of Appeal yesterday, Lord Justice Stuart-Smith said that in his view Mr Vernon's claim against the insurance company should have failed. But Lord Justice Evans and Lord Justice Thorpe upheld Mr Justice Sedley's finding that Mr Vernon's mental problems were attributable to what he had witnessed on the river bank.

All three judges agreed that the award had been too high, and the pay-out was reduced to £621,940.

Self Portrait

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# Labour shies from renationalising rail

CHRISTIAN WOLMAR and COLIN BROWN

Labour has shied away from any commitment to renationalise Railtrack but its plans to increase regulation in the railways may scare off some potential investors.

In a long-awaited speech, Clare Short, Labour's transport spokeswoman, finally set out the party's policy, which was presented by senior party sources as "realistic and achievable".

However, the policy falls well short of a firm commitment to

renationalise Railtrack quickly, as was being demanded by the unions and the Left. Ms Short, speaking in Swindon, Berkshire, said that Railtrack would only be renationalised depending "on the availability of resources, and as priorities allow". She also failed to specify what percentage of Railtrack would be bought back — and the Government has yet to announce how much is to be sold, although it will be at least 51 per cent.

Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, has clearly won the

argument in preventing any firm commitment to renationalise, even though many Labour MPs argued that the party should not allow the shareholders of a privatised Railtrack to make profits out of public money. Currently, 94 per cent of Railtrack's £2bn-per-year income comes from track access charges, which are paid by the train-operating companies who receive £1.8bn a year in subsidy.

Despite Mr Brown's victory, the Tories seized on the speech, saying that it was a return to mid-style Labour pro-nationalisation

values. Brian Mawhinney, the Conservative Party chairman said: "This is just nationalisation: 'New Labour' 50 years old — driven by trade unions and John Prescott [deputy leader] to nationalise." However, Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, took a different tack as he said the plans were "vacuous" and proved that Labour was not fit to govern because they failed to answer key questions about the future of the industry.

It is clear from Ms Short's speech that Labour in govern-

ment would do little to change the complex structure of privatisation set out by the Railways Act 1993. However, she said that Labour intends, by legislation, to give enhanced powers to the Rail Regulator to control the industry and get value from the industry's £2bn-worth of public subsidy.

In a mischievous part of the Act, presumably aimed at future Labour administrations, the Government specified that from the beginning of 1997 the regulator would no longer be subject to guidance from min-

isters and Ms Short has clearly committed Labour to ensuring that the regulator would have enhanced powers.

Ms Short wants the regulator to impose "fair access charges", and this may result in a reduction of Railtrack's profitability. While this increases somewhat the political risk and may deter some individual investors from buying Railtrack shares which go on sale in early May, the City appears satisfied that Railtrack will be a good investment. One City source said: "Most people were worried that Labour's

statement would have been something more material."

The City was particularly pleased that Ms Short said: "there is no question of existing contacts being cancelled against the wishes of the parties to them".

One firm commitment is that Labour will rein back on the profits which Railtrack can make from property development. Currently, Railtrack can keep 75 per cent of the profits, but Labour intends that all proceeds should be used to keep fares down.

## Stalker jailed for revenge attack

A jilted lover was jailed for a total of two years at the Old Bailey yesterday for launching an obsessive terror campaign in revenge against his former girlfriend and her family.

Anthony King, a 25-year-old former disc jockey, was told by Recorder James Chadwin that his conduct was "of the most despicable kind and a gross abuse to the intimate relationship" he had with his girlfriend. Gemma Jones, 18, a magazine sales executive, and her family became victims of King's psychological stalking — fuelled by his fury after she ditched him at the end of a two-year relationship. Both her mother and father have since suffered breakdowns.

King bombed Ms Jones with telephoned calls, vandalised her father's BMW car, sprayed graffiti over their garage and porch and posted pornographic photographs of her at a railway station and on a tree. He also suggested her parents were colour prejudiced.

He told police afterwards that he wanted "to have a pop" at them before going to Australia because he felt they did not approve of him because he was black.

In August last year, under cover of darkness, he stole into the garden of their Surrey home with a can of petrol and set fire to a pile of garden furniture just outside the house. The family's dog alerted them to the blaze, which damaged walls, guttering and windows frames.

King, from Sutton, Surrey, had admitted causing damage, displaying the photographs and arson earlier this month, but was remanded in custody for pre-sentence reports. Neither Ms Jones nor her parents were in court to see King, who has already served seven-and-a-half months in prison, sentenced.

Recorder Chadwin said that he accepted King was "under the impression you were being victimised by her parents because of your colour". He had received a letter which indicated "some support" to King's proposition, but added: "However strong your feelings about any sense of being victimised cannot possibly justify any of the acts you did."

## East Coast operator warns of job cuts

CHRISTIAN WOLMAR Transport Correspondent

The new operator of the East Coast main line, Britain's most modern rail line, promised better reliability and cleaner trains but warned of job cuts among the 2,900 staff.

Great Northern Railway, a subsidiary of Sea Containers the Bermuda-based transport company, will initially receive more subsidy than currently paid to British Rail to run services on the line which runs between King's Cross, York, Newcastle, Edinburgh and Inverness, but at the end of the seven-year franchise will receive no financial support at all.

The company will get £64.6m, compared with £59.8m for BR, but with improved marketing and reduced costs, Sea Containers is confident that it can still make a profit even though it will receive no subsidy by 2003. Sea Containers plan to increase revenue, currently around £280m including subsidy, by 35 per cent over the next seven years.

Because the franchise is only for seven years, Sea Containers will not buy any new trains but has committed itself to spending £17m on station improvements. James Sherwood,



On track: The new operator of the East Coast main line has promised passengers better reliability, cleaner trains and a £17m station improvement programme. Photograph: Brian Harris

its chairman, said: "People freeze to death on draughty stations. People don't freeze in the airline business." He suggested new passenger kites would be provided at many stations.

Great Northern Railway is committed to running the same amount of mileage as the current timetable for the next two years, though some train times may be changed. Extra services to Bradford would be

provided as well as new coach links to stations. Mr Sherwood said he would have preferred to have seen privatisation involving the selling of the track and services together rather than separately "because there are three lots of profit being made, for Railtrack, for the train operators, and for the rolling stock companies".

He added that he had spoken to several government ministers

about his concerns over the structure of privatisation and "they had said there may be better ways of doing this thing, but the most important thing was to get the railways privatised as quickly as possible".

He said that a privatised railway would inevitably be more efficient, adding: "We have to try to break the communist approach to running a railway started in the socialist period of

the 1940s." He said some redundancies were inevitable, but was unable to give a figure and said that he hoped most would be voluntary or early retirements. Asked what a change of government might mean, Mr Sherwood said he was unconcerned: "I think it would be the death of the Labour Party if they started a programme of renationalisation."

Brian Wilson, Labour's transport

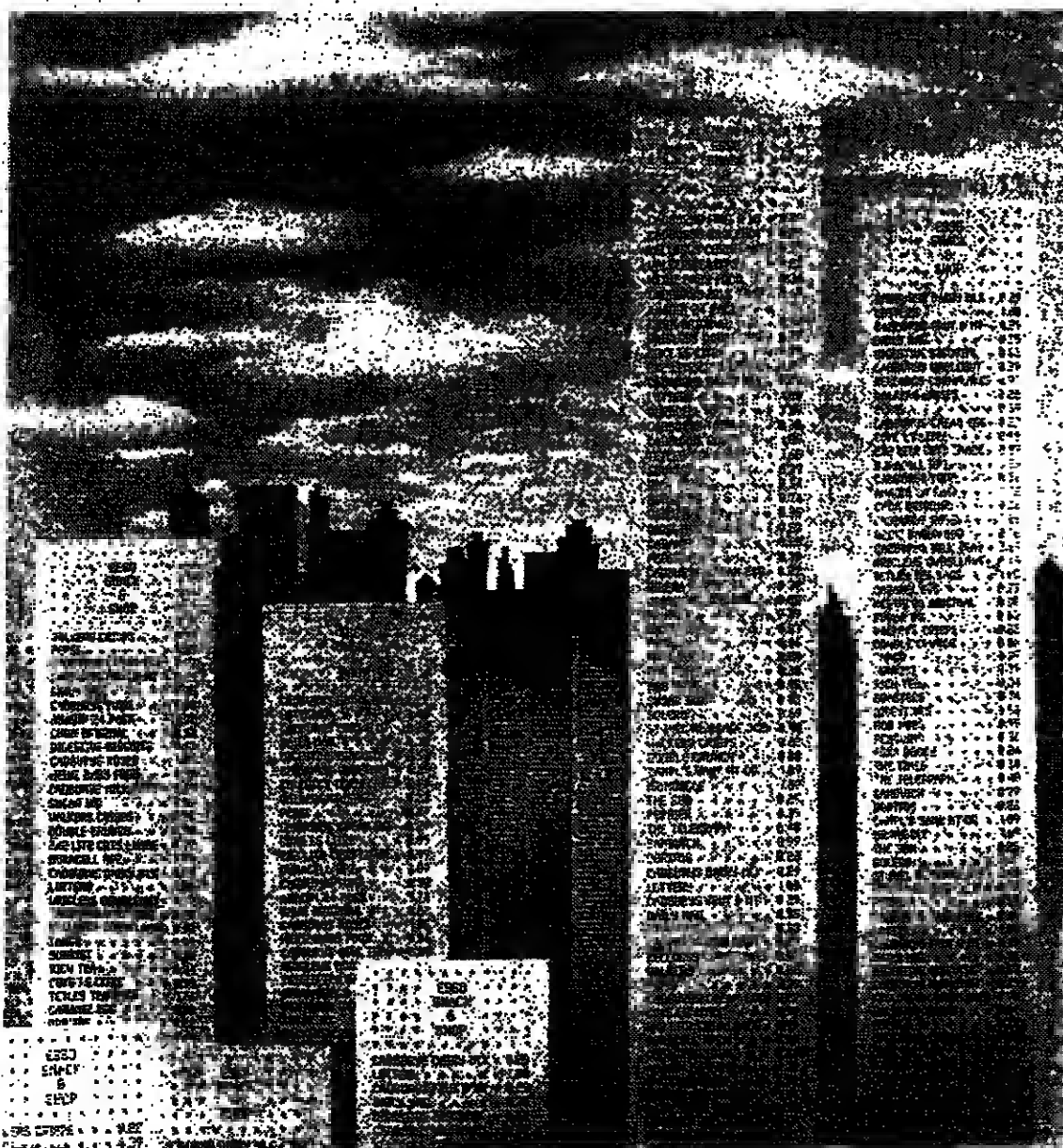
spokesman, said: "It is extraordinary that a company based in Bermuda is being given a licence to print money, funded entirely by nearly £1bn of public investment in the East Coast main line."

Mr Wilson added that under BR, the line had been profitable and that it was only as a result of the changes to the financial structure of the railways that it

had lost money in the past two years.

Police yesterday staged an early morning raid on the Southend offices of the London, Tilbury and Southend line which is the subject of an inquiry into ticket fraud allegations. The alleged fraud resulted in the allocation of the franchise to the management being withdrawn hours before it was due to take place in early February.

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news

# Anger grows at soaring cost of police assaults

HEATHER MILLS  
Home Affairs Correspondent

Over the last 10 years Scotland Yard has paid out an estimated £20m of taxpayers' money in damages and legal costs to answer allegations of brutality and gross misconduct by officers — removing allegations that police chiefs are failing to deal with a growing problem.

More than £5m was in compensation to men and women who alleged they were the victims of police misconduct. The rest paid police costs and plaintiffs' legal bills. Labour MPs are to table a series of questions in the Commons on the issue.

Calls for a public inquiry followed immediately upon Thursday's payout of nearly £300,000 to two men who told London County Court juries how in separate incidents in Streatham, south London, they were the victims of police actions. In the first, record damages of £220,000 were awarded to Kenneth Hsu, 32, who was kicked,

punched and racially abused by officers who had wrongly arrested him. £200,000 of that was "exemplary" damages imposed by the jury both to punish and to show Sir Paul Condon, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, that such misconduct would not be tolerated.

MPs and lawyers are concerned that awards and settlements are now so frequent that their greatest anxiety is that officers are rarely the subject of criminal charges or disciplinary action. In 1994, the latest year for which full figures are available, the police won outright only 24 of 304 cases against them, but no officers were prosecuted and only four disciplined — one cautioned, another fined and two "given words of advice".

In three serious cases this year, involving grave allegations against named officers, including those accused by Mr Hsu, no officers have been disciplined.

Their second concern is that the Police Complaints Author-

ity does not provide a suitable remedy. For example, it had rejected Mr Hsu's complaints.

The police, and the PCA, argue that the burden of proof depends on the type of case: a civil action is decided on the lesser "balance of probabilities"; a criminal and disciplinary case must be decided "beyond reasonable doubt".

Further, Sir Paul has made it clear that he blames the explosion of civil actions on specialist lawyers who chose to sue rather than make a formal complaint, because they see the forces as an easy target. Most civil actions for damages are settled outside court, without any admission of liability by the police. But yesterday Sadiq Khan, Mr Hsu's solicitor said: "It is because the Police Complaints Authority is so impotent that more people are resorting to remedies offered under civil law to seek out some sort of justice."

Sir Paul is on the record as saying he was determined to fight more actions in court. But Thursday's two awards of punitive damages may deter him. Meanwhile, he will face mounting pressure to act — not least from two civil actions expected later this year. They follow the verdicts of "unlawful killing" by two inquest juries against officers involved in the death of two men they were seeking to arrest, Shiji Lapile and Richard O'Brien.

## Damages paid by the Metropolitan force

Year	Damages	Legal costs
1986	£393,000	£1,589,000
1987	£184,000	£1,343,000
1988	£388,000	£1,560,000
1989	£523,000	£8,042,000
1990	£536,000	
1991	£471,000	
1992	£755,000	

Legal costs will more than double the bill to the taxpayer.



Glitterati: Supermodels highlight Todd Oldham's collection in New York



Photographs: Sheridan Morley

## Catwalk drenched in high glamour

TAMSI BLANCHARD  
Fashion Editor

New York fashion designers make clothes that either have no other purpose but to sell in huge volume, or are designed with drag queens in mind. Todd Oldham belongs to the latter group and his show on Thursday evening featured his favourite supermodels with huge overblown manes of matted hair dressed in old-fashioned glamour.

The collection was a mish-mash of tightly tailored suits with flared trousers, fake fur trimming and jackets, sequinned turtlenecks and hats with dangling pom-poms. A dress was pinned with hundreds of sparkling paste brooches.

It is difficult to imagine quite who buys Todd Oldham, but he also designs for the highly successful German label Escada. Donald Trump's former wife, Ivana, who watched the show, is probably one of the few women who could get away with it.

After the show, fashion groupies tramped off in a snowstorm to a Lower East Side synagogue where the British designer Alexander McQueen was holding his show. McQueen is highly regarded in New York where his aggressive styling and masterful tailoring are a universe away from the bland, but highly saleable clothes produced by US designers. "I want to bring a little more spectacle to New York, a little more pomp," McQueen said.

## Troubled 'Observer' appoints new editor after Jaspán goes

Will Hutton has been appointed the new editor of the *Observer* newspaper. The 45-year-old best-selling author, who was formerly the *Guardian's* economic editor, replaces Andrew Jaspán, who left the paper yesterday.

Mr Hutton said yesterday: "The *Observer* is a great paper. It is an honour to be offered the editorship. My aim is to accelerate the pace at which it recovers its prestige and honours place in British national life — encouraging high-quality writing extending across the gamut, from sport to politics, from listings to front-page news."

Mr Hutton, a former stockbroker, joined the *Guardian* in 1990 as economics editor and was appointed assistant editor in 1995. His political book, *The State We're In*, which was published last year, has been in the



Out and in: Andrew Jaspán (left) is replaced by Will Hutton

bestseller list ever since, with hardback and paperback sales approaching 150,000 copies. He was named Political Journalist of the year by Granada Television's *What The Papers Say* programme for his coverage of



Out and in: Andrew Jaspán (left) is replaced by Will Hutton

journalism and a significant thinker. We believe that, under an inspirational editor, the *Observer* will make great strides in a market that has been dominated too long by the forces of reaction. We are delighted that he has accepted this challenging job."

Mr Hutton's appointment means that Peter Preston's role as Editor-in-Chief of the *Guardian* and the *Observer* will lapse. He continues as non-executive director of the *Guardian* Media Group and as a Scot trustee.

Mr Preston said: "It wasn't necessary to have a bridging editor when I was editing the *Guardian* and Jonathan Fenby, my old deputy, was editing the *Observer*. Alan Rusbridger [editor of the *Guardian*] and Will are close colleagues and I reckon it's obviously best that they make their own dispositions."

## Researcher 'ran porn library on the Internet'

A university researcher ran a computer library of pornography including indecent pictures of children and allowed others to supply and copy pictures from his collection, a court was told yesterday.

In what is believed to be the first case of its kind, Alban Fellows and Stephen Arnold are charged under the Protection of Children Act and the Obscene Publications Act in connection with distributing child pornography from the collection through the Internet.

Birmingham Crown Court was told how Fellows, 26, from Moseley in Birmingham, worked as a research assistant in the plasma melting unit at the University of Birmingham where he had access to the main computer. He was a skilled computer operator and trusted by the university to install and maintain computers.

But, unknown to the authorities, he attached a hard disk memory to the university's main computer where he stored his library of pornography, a collection he named.

Melbourne Inman, for the prosecution, told the court: "Mr Fellows had a library, a library of pornography. It wasn't just anyone who could use it, you had to have a library ticket and Mr Fellows was the man from whom you had to get the ticket. You would usually have to have another ticket holder vouch for you. Access to this library was only for those who could be trusted. If you provided enough you would see it all. Mr Fellows clearly was effectively using a system of 'what have you

before I let you look at my stuff'. That was how it worked."

Mr Fellows is charged with possessing four indecent pictures of children which he intended to distribute. He is also accused of possessing two obscene pictures of adults stored on his computer hard disk.

Mr Arnold, 24, from Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, worked as a graphics co-ordinator for Hughes Network Systems Limited in the town.

He is charged with distributing three of the indecent pictures of children to Fellows through his computer, between February and April 1994. Both men deny all the charges.

In April 1994, police arrested Mr Fellows at Birmingham University and seized his hard disk. He admitted having pornography in the computer and accepted sole responsibility for the library. In September 1994, police arrested Mr Arnold at his Milton Keynes office and copied files from his computer.

Mr Inman said the pictures downloaded by computer by Mr Arnold to Mr Fellows were copies taken from *Lolita*, a pornographic magazine which included indecent pictures of children. They sent each other coded E-mail messages to discuss the pictures. Mr Arnold was allowed to become a ticket holder to the library in return for the photographs.

Mr Fellows sent Mr Arnold an E-mail in March 1994 after receiving copies of the photographs. "The messages make it clear what was being sent," Mr Inman said.

The case continues.

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6 Months Notice	£75,000 - £99,999	4.72	6.15
	£50,000 - £74,999	4.76	5.95
	£25,000 - £49,999	4.48	5.60
	£10,000 - £24,999	4.00	5.00
OPTIONS +	£50,000 plus	4.48	5.60
3 Months Notice	£20,000 - £49,999	3.96	4.95
	£10,000 - £19,999	3.60	4.50
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	£20,000 - £49,999	3.36	4.20
	£10,000 - £19,999	3.20	4.00
	£5,000 - £9,999	2.88	3.60
	£2,500 - £4,999	2.82	3.50
	£500 - £2,499	2.70	3.35
3 Months Notice	£50,000 plus	4.28	5.35
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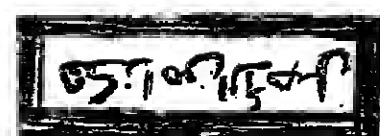
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# Russians bomb own troops in Chechen war

HELEN WOMACK  
Moscow

Russian forces rounded off a week in which they have pounded Chechen villages by accidentally bombing their own troop positions, it was revealed yesterday. The disastrous incident, in which soldiers and civilians were killed, will hardly serve to produce a receptive audience when President Boris

Yeltsin goes on television tomorrow to announce a new plan to end the war in Chechnya, before the June elections. The commander of Russian forces in Chechnya, General Vyacheslav Tikhomirov, was forced to apologise for what he called the "accidental" bombing of the western village of Katyr-Yurt on Thursday. Nine civilians and an unspecified number of troops died.

The incident prompted even the pro-Kremlin puppet government in Grozny to protest. A spokesman suggested it may not have been an accident. Katyr-Yurt was a settlement which had handed over its weapons in exchange for security guarantees from the army, yet it had been bombed, he said. "Clearly there are forces among the Russian military who are interested in continuing the war."

Mr Yeltsin is not. He knows he must extinguish the conflict, which he has called the "biggest disappointment of my presidency". If he is to stand a chance of overtaking his Communist opponent, Gennady Zyuganov, currently the front runner in the presidential election race. But his plan is going to have to be a magic one to succeed, and all the signs are that it falls short.

Earlier this month, rumours swept Moscow that Mr Yeltsin was going to sack the Defence Minister, Pavel Grachev, who helped drag Russia into the war in 1994. His dismissal would have indicated new thinking in the Kremlin. But the general has made three trips to Chechnya in as many weeks to oversee a Russian operations which observers say have been as brutal as any in the war.

Russian tanks were reported to be surrounding Chechen villages, making them sign peace agreements under duress. But there have been no talks with the separatist leader, General Dzhokhar Dudayev, although a recent poll showed 57 per cent of Russians favoured this idea. Instead, the Russian army has attacked rebel positions, pushing Dudayev's men back into the southern mountains.

General Grachev said this week that after Mr Yeltsin's speech, large-scale military operations would cease. But General Dudayev, who still regards himself as being at war with Russia, cannot be relied on to play Mr Yeltsin's election game. In the absence of a proper settlement with all parties, the risk remains of terrorist raids, like that carried out in Kizlyar in January.

One presidential candidate, Grigory Yavlinsky on Thursday dismissed Mr Yeltsin's peace plan as a "myth" and called for demonstrations against the "genocide" in Chechnya. But on another front, Mr Yeltsin's election chances were boosted yesterday, when the republics of Belarus, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan signed an agreement on economic integration with Russia without loss of sovereignty.

## Church row over 'white' cemetery

DAVID USBORNE  
New York

An attempt by a Southern Baptist church in rural Georgia to have the body of a mixed-race infant disinterred just days after its burial to keep its cemetery "100-per-cent white" has re-ignited racial anger in the American deep south.

The controversy over the fate of the body of Whitney Johnson, who died 19 hours after birth, has cast an unwelcome pall over the Protestant Southern Baptist Convention which was founded 150 years ago partly in defence of American slavery.

Whitney's family was informed by the Barnett's Creek Baptist Church in Thomasville, Georgia, that the girl's funeral had been a mistake and that the body would have to be disinterred and buried elsewhere. Whitney's mother, Jaime Wireman, is white, and her father, Jeffrey Johnson, is black.

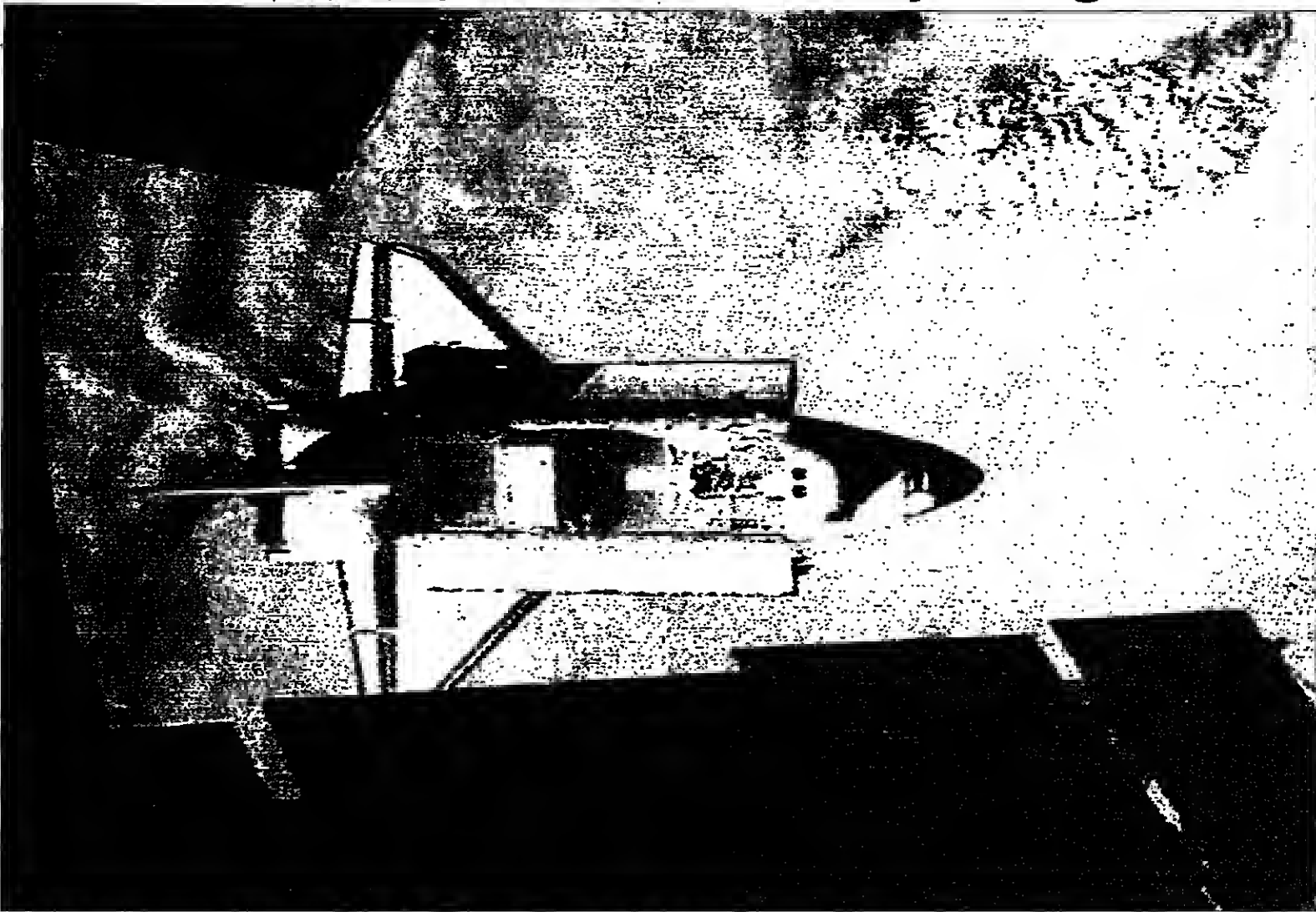
The astonishing message was apparently delivered by Logan Lewis, the pastor of the church. "He said they don't allow half-breeds in their cemetery," the baby's grandmother said. "The pastor said: 'That's a 100-per-cent white cemetery'."

Mr Lewis was quoted in the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* as saying: "There's not any mixing of cemeteries anywhere in this area. If someone white asked to be buried in a black cemetery, he'd be a laughing stock."

The church also claimed that it had been unaware of the race of the baby until it became obvious at the open-casket funeral. The pastor has since written to the funeral home to complain about "being deceived".

Such has been the publicity surrounding the affair, that the church has hacked down and will allow Whitney to remain at rest alongside other deceased members of the Wireman family. But for the Baptist Convention, which last year issued a resolution to "repudiate historic acts of evil such as slavery", the damage is done.

## Atlantis says goodbye to Mir after five days of togetherness



The space shuttle Atlantis seen between the solar panels of the Russian space station Mir after undocking

Photograph: AP/Nasa TV

## Besieged vigilantes 'close to surrender'

TIM CORNWELL  
Los Angeles

The Freemen of Montana live in "a netherworld of alternative reality", according to experts on the American far-right fringe. They write cheques for huge sums, drawn on fictitious banks, take grand titles like Justice of the Peace and spout English common law in court submissions that run to hundreds of pages but make little sense. But their cheques were good enough to persuade car dealers to hand over a small fleet of late-model trucks and

to defraud banks and mail-order firms of \$1.8m (£1.2m), it is alleged. And their smoke-and-mirrors financial schemes convinced hundreds of people to join expensive "training" courses in Montana and California.

A reported 100 FBI agents and local police yesterday continued to surround a remote Montana ranch where about a dozen armed Freemen were said to be holed up. Yesterday the stand-off, which authorities are at pains not to describe as a siege, entered its fifth day. The FBI remained determined to

avoid a repetition of blundered and bloody encounters with fringe and cult groups at Waco, Texas and Ruby Ridge, Idaho.

Though supplies of food and electricity to the ranch were cut off, agents have allowed a sister of two Freemen leaders to deliver a surrender petition which she helped to write. The Freemen, like other militant anti-government groups that have flourished in the US in recent years, typically denounce the US government as an illegal conspiracy. They refuse to pay taxes, carry drivers' licences or recognise American courts

and believe the US Constitution grants more rights to white than non-white citizens. But the Freemen and associated groups, said to number several hundred across the US, are also described as able communists.

While other pro-gun militia groups began military training, the Freemen made their protests through legal go-betweens and financial fakery.

They used phony lawsuits to harass local officials. In Colorado, for \$300, they showed farmers how to pay off farm loans by printing certified money orders on home computers.

Several dozen people showed up for courses each weekend at their ranch, the "Justus Township", where those inside are wanted for fraud and death threats. One Freemen graduate, Mary Broderick, held two-day workshops in the Los Angeles area offering a quick fix to money and tax problems and drawing hundreds of people.

Ms Broderick dropped out of sight in the desert town of Lancaster, California this week when prosecutors sought a restraining order, saying \$30m worth of fake cheques had reached the Government.

## Serb prisoners 'forced to eat soap' during months of beatings in solitary confinement

Doboj, Bosnia — Outside the door of the Red Cross office here in the Serbian sector of northern Bosnia, a dozen anxious women gather on the off-chance of news. Their husbands are not among the 109 prisoners released by the Bosnian Muslims in Tuzla, 60 miles away, but perhaps one of the 109 has seen or heard of their men, most of them missing since the Serbs were pushed back in the September 1995 offensive.

No news is not good news. One woman, pale and jumpy, poured out her fears that her husband had been "ritually murdered" by the mujahedin, whom many Serbs believe were sent in their thousands from Arab countries to fight for the Muslims.

The Red Cross managed to register lists of Tuzla prisoners last month, but many men are unaccounted for. Former pris-

oners said they were not visited by any humanitarian agency for the first three or four months of their captivity.

All the newly released prisoners I talked to were reluctant conscripts, and none seemed to know what the war was about. One, a grizzled, unshaven sergeant wearing a bright new jacket, described his 45 days of solitary confinement and of interrogation — on how many women he had raped and how many Muslims he had killed — accompanied by blindfolding and beatings.

Later he was put in a shared cell in a regular prison. "Work" there consisted of being handcuffed to a fence and made to pull grass. Sometimes he was taken into the prison yard to

pick up cigarette butts dropped by the more kindly treated Muslim prisoners — deserters — who were kept separate from the Serbs, but who could watch him at his task. His guards got some fun out of making him shout: "I'm a dirty Chetnik!"

Another man told of being captured when Muslim forces overran Serb positions. He was shut in a disused ambulance shed for two days, where he claimed he and his companions were beaten and humiliated, forced to "eat paper and soap", and given one-and-a-half litres of water a day for 30 men.

Later, they were taken to Tuzla and put into a civilian prison, he said. Forty men were held in a cell 20 metres square and kept there for three months without

exercise or medical attention, apart from aspirins, for the wounded and sick. The men were often forbidden to sit down during the day. Drinking-water had to be collected in bottles from the toilets, which they visited three times a day. They were given no changes of clothes, no heating, and nothing to do.

After three months they were taken out on work details, digging canals and rebuilding ruined buildings. After the months of darkness and confinement, he said, they "could hardly see or walk". He claimed that as the prisoners worked, guards subjected them to random beatings.

He described his release as "a new birth". I asked him what he

had done the night before, after being reunited with his family. "No going out drinking," he said. "I was drunk on the alcohol of life."

■ The Hague (Reuters) — The United Nations criminal tribunal for former Yugoslavia said on Friday it was returning the Bosnian Serb Colonel Aleksa Krsmanovic to the custody of the Bosnian government in Sarajevo.

Colonel Krsmanovic was captured with General Djordje Djukic by Bosnian government forces on 30 January and was transferred to the tribunal's custody on 12 February.

Djukic was later charged with war crimes in connection with the siege of Sarajevo. The chief prosecutor Richard Goldstone earlier told the tribunal that there was no reason to hold Krsmanovic any longer in The Hague as he was unwilling to co-operate as a witness.

## US pledges to aid suffering Palestinians

PATRICK COCKBURN  
Jerusalem

The United States has proposed a plan at the anti-terrorism conference in Washington to pump money and jobs into the West Bank and Gaza in order to aid Palestinians who are suffering from the Israeli economic blockade.

Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, told envoys from the 27 states attending the conference that "the merchants of terror" must be defeated, but "we must find ways to support the Palestinian people as they, too, suffer the consequences of the Hamas bombings."

Sach Erekat, a senior Palestinian official, called for \$100m (£65m) in emergency funds to help Palestinians avoid starvation and head off a "major explosion" in the West Bank and Gaza. "The peace process has come to a halt, and war is being waged against [Yasser] Arafat and the Palestinian people," he said.

Israel has sealed off the 2.3 million Palestinians in the occupied territories as a security measure and as a collective

punishment, after four suicide bombs killed 62 people in Israel. A ban on all Palestinians working in Israel has crippled the economy of the West Bank and Gaza.

The plan, details of which have still to be spelled out, is the result of pressure on the US from Arab and European states and the Palestinians.

It marks a step away from Washington's previous insistence on keeping the meeting focused primarily on counter-measures to terrorism. A meeting of donor countries is to be called in the next few days.

After talking by phone with Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, and Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, Mr Christopher said: "We have agreed on the development of an emergency plan designed to improve the economic situation in Gaza and the West Bank."

The materials necessary for the jobs programme will be allowed into Palestinian areas. Convoys, including those containing citrus exports from Gaza, transporting goods to and from Israeli ports and Jordanian crossing points, would be increased.

More trucks will be allowed to bring imports from Egypt into the West Bank and Gaza.

Differences have emerged between the US and its European allies over the follow-up to the "summit of peace-makers" in Egypt two weeks ago. France has reportedly been seeking support from Germany, Italy and Britain to spearhead a European initiative, arguing that the follow-up conference ought to consider the causes of terrorism, and not only the effects. France believes repressive policies will not help the peace process in the long run.

## Alien visitors restore ghost town's spirits

RACHEL DAYS

Rachel, Nevada — If ET does come home, says Governor Bob Miller, "I would like it to be in Nevada". He will preside this month at the opening of a 97-mile airstrip for flying saucers, a section of desolate desert road whose new name is the Extra Terrestrial Highway.

The talk at the Little A'Le' Inn, the highway's roadside motel, is that ET has landed already. He may even be working alongside US engineers at the top secret US military installation on the other side of Bald Mountain, teaching them the ABCs of UFO propulsion.

"You all go search for UFOs now," says Sharon Singer, a researcher who investigates the wilder theories about the airbase, known as Area 51, gelling between Alien burgers washed down with Beam Me Up Scotty and Alien Secretion cocktails. "You are in Rachel, and anything you want to think is for real."

The former Highway 375 sweeps through Nevada's high desert, an unforgiving place in a state with the lowest rainfall in the country. The sun beats down by day and temperatures drop sharply at night, when the stars seem very close.

Residents of Rachel, population 100 and the highway's only hamlet, named for the only child ever born there, are often enlisted to retrieve stranded tourists with empty tanks. The sign leaving Rachel reads "Next Gas 110 miles". The route's highlights include ghost towns and abandoned mining camps, along with the 26-mile marker where a UFO watcher and his wife claim to have been abducted by an alien named Quavlar in 1983.

The campaign to rename the road followed a series of alleged UFO sightings in the early 1990s. It included demonstrations at the State Capitol by a local man named Merlin, convinced he had flown in from the

planet Delmonicus. Governor Miller agreed to the measure to boost tourism. Locals are already doing a brisk trade in T-shirts, keyrings, and alien busts. Wednesday is considered the best viewing night, and while most locals say they've never seen UFOs, the visitors seldom appear disappointed.

The Little A'Le' Inn was the plain old Rachel Bar and Grill until owner the Pat Travis, a grizzled Kentucky carpenter, had a flash of inspiration and began adding rooms. Now its walls are littered with UFO photographs.

Conversation, with guests from all over the US and as far away as Australia, revolves around one topic. In 1989 a self-described physicist, Bob Lazar, was interviewed on a Las Vegas television station. He claimed to have worked at a "flying saucer base" in the desert where the US military was studying stranded alien aircraft.

Mr Lazar picked a good location: the Groom Lake airbase, where the US government has developed and tested much of its most closely guarded aerospace technology. Rachel, 20 miles away, is the nearest civilian site. For years the bat-like F-117 Stealth bomber flitted through the mountains around Rachel, while it was still part of a "black" defence program whose very existence was denied by the US government. The secrecy fuelled the UFO stories.

Trepassers on land around the base are arrested instantly and usually fined several hundred dollars. It makes for an unusual type of tourism: driving to the edge of the restricted zone to read signs that warn the use of "deadly force" is authorised. Then it's back to the bar to swap more alien folklore. "The earth is but a grain of sand on a very large beach," intones owner Pat. "It doesn't make sense to think we're alone."

Tim Cornwell

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## OUR SCORCHED EARTH

## Burn out

In the first of a three-part series, Nick Schoon outlines the radically altered global climate that will form our grandchildren's inheritance

Last year was the earth's warmest since world temperature records began more than a century ago.

At the start of this month, Britain experienced the worst ever damage to the part of the ozone layer that hangs high above it in the stratosphere.

The theoretical has become the actual. Hazards that just a few years ago seemed entirely within the realms of scientific speculation are affecting us, here and now. The consequences for us and our children over the next 10, 20, 50 years could be catastrophic and will certainly be far reaching.

A little over 20 years ago, we got the first warnings that the build-up of a group of non-toxic, ubiquitous industrial chemicals, CFCs and others, in the atmosphere could theoretically deplete the ozone layer that shields life from much of the incoming ultraviolet light in sunshine.

Ten years ago, the first ozone hole was detected over the Antarctic by the British Antarctic Survey. It was a startling demonstration of the power of pollution: very low concentrations of a fairly innocuous contaminant could drastically alter the physics of the atmosphere over an entire continent.

But it was earlier this month that ozone destruction really came home. Instruments at either end of the country - at Lerwick in Shetland and Cambridge in Cornwall - measured the lowest levels of stratospheric ozone recorded over Britain in 20 years of watching the skies. An ozone hole - thankfully, a short-lived one - was opening over Britain.

At the same time, other instruments detected an unprecedented surge in UV-B radiation shining down onto these islands. The levels of this potentially dangerous radiation, which can cause skin cancers, were of the same strength as those normally found in May when the sun is much higher in the sky.

Fortunately, we are attempting to abort the dangerous and unwitting experiment with the ozone layer. A series of international agreements is cracking down on the chemicals that destroy it. But that does not mean the threat is over. There is a fierce argument about whether the pace of the phase-out is fast enough. Holes will continue to appear for decades to come.

But our bigger and still more dangerous experiment with the climate is only just beginning. Global warming has moved out of the realms of theory: it's with us and with a vengeance.

Scientists have been warning for more than a century that burning fossil fuels and forests would raise temperatures, alter

climate and raise sea levels. Last November, under the auspices of the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, they reached a consensus that this temperature rise can now be detected. The Eighties and Nineties have seen nine of the 10 hottest years on record.

But unlike the ozone layer, there are as yet no agreements in place that will slow down and reverse this process. Even if, overnight, the world miraculously halted its use of fossil fuels, global warming would continue - because of the thermal momentum already built up and because 50 per cent would not be a sufficiently large cutback.

So it is going to be a hotter world in the next century. If we continue to remain hooked on fossil fuel (there is still at least a century worth of reserves underground) the century after that will be hotter still. The question that climatologists and their models cannot yet answer is exactly

**'If ice caps slide into the sea and melt, sea levels will rise by hundreds of feet'**

how much warmer. And precisely where it will be warmer, wetter, drier, or stormier.

Every aspect of society, of our children and grandchildren's lives, will be affected. Today's thirty-somethings will probably have to cope with climate shifts in their retirement years. But their children and grandchildren will have to learn to take much more drastic measures.

Our economies, health, agriculture, leisure activities and water supplies will all have to adjust. Nations may come into conflict because of water and food shortages exacerbated by global warming, so diplomacy and defence strategies will be affected, too.

Because the scientists are still several years from being able to make good regional predictions, it is impossible to know exactly what global warming has in store for Britain through the 21st century. Today's supercomputer forecasts suggest a slightly warmer and even rainier group of islands. But the stronger heat in summer could easily counter-balance the extra rainfall through increased evaporation, making Britain a drier place.

Several recent very mild winters in the UK and the record-breaking heat of last summer could be harbingers of the global

warming. So could the English drought between 1989 and 1992, and the much more severe drought of last year that is now certain to resume this summer. The consequences for how we collect, distribute and use water will be far reaching.

The water companies question all their assumptions about resources and demand, and caused a frantic investment in extra supplies in some regions.

Worldwide, there are other signals that global warming is already here. Most mountain glaciers for which we have good records are shortening, retreating higher and higher as they melt away.

One of the strongest warming trends has been in the Antarctic Peninsula - 2.5°C warmer in 50 years. In the last Antarctic summer (our winter of 94/95), huge thick, floating ice shelves covering about 2,000 square miles of sea rapidly broke up - the first time this has been observed.

The most advanced predictions, such as those being produced by the Meteorological Office's Hadley Centre in Bracknell, Berkshire, suggest that globally average surface temperatures will rise 1°C between now and 2040.

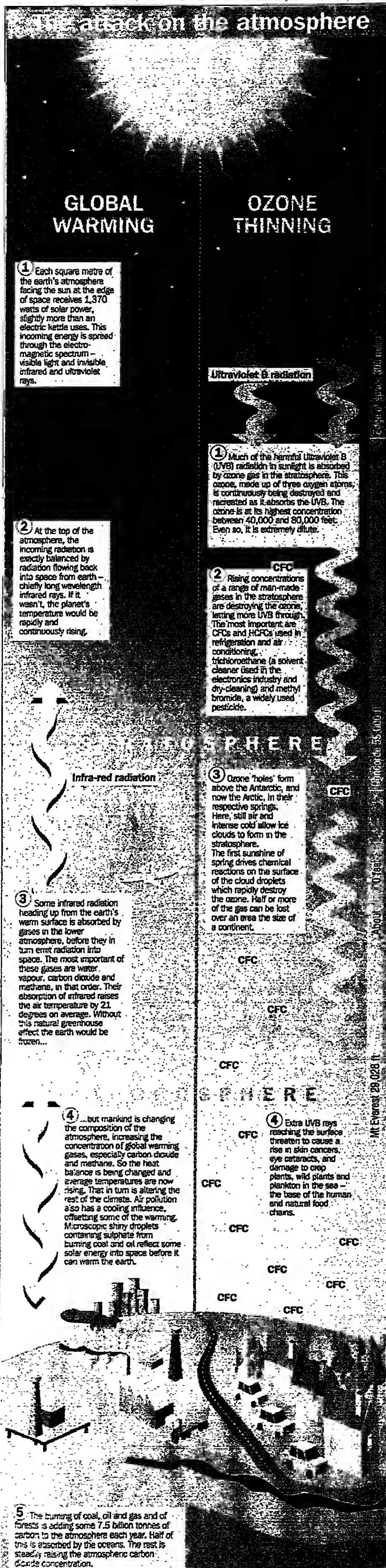
While 1°C in 50 years may sound trivial, the 0.2°C a decade rise this implies is faster than any since the last Ice Age ended 10,000 years ago. This alone is enough to disrupt natural ecosystems and agriculture.

But on top of this temperature rise will come changes in rainfall, wind patterns and soil moisture content, adding to the impact. They are only forecasts based on an incomplete understanding of how the earth's atmosphere, oceans, icecaps and plantlife will respond to the warming - dampening or accelerating it. But if the huge on-land ice caps of Greenland and Antarctica were to become detached, slide into the sea and melt, sea levels would rise not by the two feet forecast for 2100 using computer models - but by hundreds of feet. A land area the size of a large continent would disappear.

If global warming were to halt or divert the Gulf Stream, Britain and western Europe would become much colder. The risks of widespread, climate-caused death, disease and famine are ever higher in an increasingly crowded world, with dense populations packed into areas prone to drought, floods and crop failures.

A few decades beyond the millennium, we may see the Nineties as a wasted decade in which we chose to continue adding to these risks despite strong early warnings.

**Nicholas Schoon**



## Heads in the clouds

Tom Wilkie examines the scientific explanations for why the planet is getting warmer

The hole in the Antarctic ozone layer might have gone undetected - were it not for the Falklands War. The British Antarctic Survey (BAS) had been short of money and considered stopping ozone-measuring. After the Falklands War, Mrs Thatcher channelled more money to the BAS for reasons of political prestige in the South Atlantic. Measuring ozone was revived. It was measurements by this programme in 1985 that helped to confirm earlier suggestions by a Japanese researcher (which had been roundly dismissed) that the ozone layer was being depleted.

The materials responsible for ozone depletion - the chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) used in refrigerators and air-conditioning units, and as propellants in aerosols - are potent greenhouse chemicals. Molecule for molecule, CFCs are far more efficient as a warming blanket than carbon dioxide. However, there is far less of the stuff in the atmosphere. Carbon dioxide is the main greenhouse gas.

There is a further link. Global warming could increase the rate at which the remaining CFCs deplete the ozone, according to Professor Sherwood Rowland from the University of California.

Professor Rowland and Dr Mario Molina shared the Nobel Prize in Chemistry last year for predicting, more than a decade before the hole in the Antarctic ozone layer was discovered, that chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) could damage the ozone layer.

Professor Rowland believes that over the next 50 years, the ozone layer will recover as a result of the decreasing concentrations of CFCs. But it could be a close-run thing.

Professor Rowland said: "The worry about low ozone in the next couple of decades is the possibility of volcanic eruptions putting surfaces in there for chlorine to take out ozone more efficiently."

Volcanoes can increase ozone depletion by throwing huge quantities of sulphur dioxide gas into the stratosphere, where it forms sulphuric acid aerosol droplets. These provide reactive surfaces to increase the efficiency with which chlorine from CFCs reacts with and removes the ozone.

The effect of sunlight on the chemistry of aerosols on the surfaces of ice crystals in stratospheric clouds may appear recondite: it is relatively straightforward compared to modelling the effects of carbon dioxide on climate.

One complication: pollution

from burning fossil fuels is cooling large areas of the planet's surface as well as warming it. Emissions of carbon dioxide trap heat in the atmosphere, but sulphate aerosols, also produced by burning coal and gas, act as a heat shield.

Powerful computers are the chief scientific weapon against global warming. Scientists at the Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction at Bracknell, Berkshire, are using a Cray C90 computer to calculate how the climate evolved from 1860 to the present day. Once they can recreate the past, the modellers will have more confidence in predicting a future in which concentrations of greenhouse gases continue to rise as the world burns more coal, oil and gas.

The behaviour of the oceans and the atmosphere are critical. There are complex flows of energy and water going on between the two, with the oceans slowing warming or cooling trends in the air.

Then there is the cooling

**'Over the next 50 years, the ozone layer will recover... But it will be a close-run thing'**

effect of aerosols. These are microscopic particles of sulphate, dust and water produced by the burning of fossil fuels as well as nature - volcanoes, sea spray and forest fires. They appear as a haze in the lower atmosphere.

Sulphate aerosol cools by reflecting incoming sunlight back into space. They are also "seed" clouds and boost the number of water droplets they contain. The clouds are then whiter and brighter and so reflect more incoming sunshine back to space.

Clouds, which could have a critical influence on the progress of any man-made global warming, are just as confusing. A warmer atmosphere would probably contain more water vapour - itself a greenhouse gas - causing further warming. But more vapour could mean more clouds. They trap some of the Earth's outgoing heat radiation, but they also reflect incoming sunlight, preventing solar radiation from heating the lower atmosphere and ground. In a warming world, our scientists will need to have their heads in the clouds.

## OUR SCORCHED EARTH

Read the final two instalments of our series in Section Two next week

## MONDAY

There are very few aspects of our daily lives that won't be touched by the effects of climatic change in the next century. In the second part of our series on the effects of global warming, we investigate the areas most in danger from a peril of man's making

## TUESDAY

Where does the planet go from here? In the final part of our investigation into climatic change, we search for answers to a global problem



# Sir William Shakespeare Bt

William Shakespeare practised as a general practitioner in Aylesbury for almost 20 years, from 1968 to 1987. "I enjoyed my work," he wrote, "and found it satisfying. I think and believe that my patients appreciated the care and attention I gave them. I do not think they were put off by my size. In medicine as in most things involving people, good rapport and communication are the most important things."

Affected himself by achondroplasia (short stature), Shakespeare had a unique understanding of the problems facing people of short stature which was greatly valued by the Restricted Growth Association (formerly the Association for Research into Restricted Growth), of which he was an active member and which he served as Vice-President from 1982 until 1996. The association is a self-help organisation set up 25 years ago to advise and support families and individuals of restricted growth. It is estimated that between 5,000 and 10,000 people in Britain are affected by the condition.

The son of Sir Geoffrey Shakespeare, the first Baronet, a Liberal MP and wartime minister, William Shakespeare was

educated at Radley College and Clare College, Cambridge, where he read Natural Sciences. Willingly accepting the challenge of achondroplasia, he overcame the reservations of his parents and decided to read medicine. In 1953, he was accepted by Clare College, Cambridge, for pre-clinical studies. He subsequently went to St George's Hospital, London, for clinical training, where he met Sue Raffel, his future wife. His chosen speciality was paediatrics because, as he wrote, "I think I felt that being a small doctor might make me more acceptable to small anxious children and this seemed to be so."

His training began with house jobs in paediatrics and medicine. A Senior House Officer post in Paediatrics at King Edward VII Hospital in Windsor, and then that of Resident Medical Officer at the Children's Hospital in Chelsea, allowed him to achieve the DCH (Diploma in Child Health) in 1963. This led to a residency at the Boston Children's Hospital, Massachusetts (1963-64). During this time he married Sue Raffel; they announced their engagement on the 400th anniversary of his namesake the playwright's birth and appeared

on US national television. Their best man was a close friend called Bill Macbeth.

Shakespeare returned to England to work as a Paediatric Registrar at Amersham, Stoke Mandeville and High Wycombe from 1964 to 1966. In 1967-68 he went to Barbados and worked as a GP Assistant before commencing General Practice in Aylesbury.

From 1972 until his retirement in September 1995, he was also Clinical Assistant to the Department for Learning Difficulties at Manor House Hospital, Aylesbury, an important centre for the care of children with severe learning problems. Dr Gerta Barton, a consultant there, writes, "He contributed much to improve the medical care of these difficult patients."

Shakespeare's involvement with disabled people led to his appointment in 1977 as National Vice-President of PHAB (Physically Handicapped, Able-Bodied), the nationwide organisation which supports people with disabilities by integrating them with able-bodied people in a wide programme of social and educational activities. He was also invited to be a member of the Snowdon Working Party into

the integration of the handicapped, and served on the committee from 1974 to 1976. He was Joint Founder Member (with Dr H.O. Philipson) of the Jonathan Page Adventure Playground for the Handicapped in Aylesbury, and from 1987 medical adviser to Buckinghamshire's Adoption Panel.

Shakespeare maintained close ties with Radley College and remained chairman of their social services committee until his death. He talked to the boys on several occasions about his work as a doctor of mentally handicapped and disabled people, advised boys who wanted to become doctors and took parties to visit the remarkable hospital at Aylesbury.

He also had a great interest in theatre, especially that of his kinsman (he was a distant relative of the playwright), and was elected a trustee of the Shakespeare Globe Trust in 1992. His particular interest was in the Globe Link project, which had been conceived to interest schoolchildren in the activities of the Globe Theatre. Schools from all parts of the world raise funds for the theatre and children are invited to attend a ceremony on the annual commemoration of William Shakespeare's birthday - 23 April.

Shakespeare was the Guest of Honour for the second such annual ceremony in 1993 and officiated at the burial of a time capsule in the vault of the theatre.

Bill Shakespeare was a keen follower of cricket, being a member of MCC, and rowing, having coxed both for his college and St George's Hospital. He also found time to enjoy reading, travel and gardening.

Martin Nelson

William Geoffrey Shakespeare, physician; born 12 October 1927; paediatric registrar, Stoke Mandeville Hospital 1964-66; general practitioner, Aylesbury 1968-87; Hospital Practitioner, Mental Subnormality, Manor House Hospital, Aylesbury 1972-90; member, Snowdon Working Party, Integration of Handicapped 1974-76; Vice-President, PHAB 1977-96; succeeded 1980 as second Vice-President, Restricted Growth Association (formerly Association for Research into Restricted Growth) 1982-96; Medical Adviser to Buckinghamshire Adoption Panel 1987-96; trustee, Shakespeare Globe Trust 1992-96; married 1964 Susan Raffel (two sons); died Cambridge 12 March 1996.



Shakespeare, Vice-President of the Restricted Growth Association 1962-86, with his wife Sue in 1989

## Rachel Labouchere

After the retirement in 1966 of her husband, Sir George Labouchere, the British ambassador to Spain, Rachel Labouchere was a considerable benefactress. First to the National Trust, by the transfer to them of her mother's family mansion at Dudmaston, in Shropshire; and secondly to the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust, by the endowment of properties in Coalbrookdale belonging to the Quaker Darby family from whom she also descended.

She was born Rachel Hamilton-Russell in 1908, a granddaughter of the eighth Viscount Boyle (the title was created for Gustavus Hamilton, one of William III's commanders at the Battle of the Boyne). Both she and her cousin the 10th Viscount, who predeceased her by three months, were prominent in the life of Shropshire: Boyle was Lord-Lieutenant of the county and a Lord-in-Waiting to the Queen.

On her mother's side she belonged to the Wolryche-

Whitmore family, a Shropshire family whose association with Dudmaston, near Bridgnorth, can be traced back to Norman times. Dudmaston passed to her by her uncle Geoffrey Wolryche-Whitmore in 1952 and she and Sir George Labouchere made it their home when he retired from the Diplomatic Service.

One of her early memories was as a six-year-old child be-



Labouchere: a charmer Photograph: Dorothy Wilking

ing taken to Brancepeth Castle, the Hamilton-Russell property near Durham which had been converted to a 100-bed military hospital and which was managed by her parents during the First World War. The inter-war years were spent back in Shropshire. Towards the beginning of the Second World War Rachel Hamilton-Russell went to work at the Admiralty in London. It was there in 1942 that she met George Labouchere, who had become a Resident Clerk at the Foreign Office, having returned there from Rome when Italy entered the war.

The two became engaged to be married in 1943 and, when George Labouchere was posted as First Secretary to the British Embassy in Stockholm, Rachel followed. The Dakota in which she was flying failed to get through to Sweden and returned to Leuchars in Scotland, leaving George stranded, not knowing what had happened. Nothing deterred Rachel, however, and in a Swedish plane to Stockholm. They were married in

May 1943 and served in Sweden for the remainder of the war.

After the war they served in the Diplomatic Service in Nanking, Buenos Aires, Vienna and Budapest until 1955, when George Labouchere became British ambassador to Belgium. The culmination of their diplomatic life was reached in 1960 when Labouchere was sent to Madrid.

Their arrival at Dudmaston opened two new chapters in Rachel Labouchere's life. It had been her uncle's wish that Dudmaston should be handed over to the National Trust, and this ambition was accomplished in 1978. Since then Dudmaston has been a popular and valuable part of the trust's Shropshire holdings, with the help and support of the Laboucheres, whose own collection of modern British, French and Spanish paintings and sculptures now form part of the outstanding displays at the house.

Rachel Labouchere has a deep sympathy with her Quaker ancestry through her mater-

nal grandmother, who was the daughter of Albert Darby of Coalbrookdale, and Rebecca Miller Christy, both from distinguished Quaker families. Rachel's aunt Muriel Cope-Darby was the last of the Darbys to live in Coalbrookdale. Rachel herself was the eighth generation of the family which had come to prominence when in 1709 her ancestor Abraham Darby discovered how to smelt iron using coke instead of charcoal, and thus set Britain on its course to becoming the world's first industrial power.

Her retirement coincided with the establishment of the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust, in which she took a very personal interest; she was its president for 14 years. She furnished two of the Darby family properties in Coalbrookdale with inherited family furnishings and artefacts, and endowed a special trust to assist with the establishment of volunteer help; she also wrote two books on her ancestors Abiah and Deborah Darby, both remarkable Quaker

er ministers, and at the time of her death was writing a third. This work was recognised by the granting of an honorary degree of Doctor of Law by Birmingham University.

Rachel Labouchere is remembered as a great charmer. This was a natural ability reinforced by her upbringing, but after a lifetime in the Diplomatic Service she had perfected the art. It gave her modest and amused pleasure to recall that the ladies of her family had inherited from her ancestor Lucy Darby, deep blue eyes and long eyelashes, and she was not above displaying these. At the same time she was a tough operator, who rarely failed to achieve her objective.

Emyr Thomas

Rachel Katharine Hamilton-Russell, writer and benefactor; born London 31 August 1908; married 1930 Malcolm MacGregor (marriage dissolved 1940); 1943 George Labouchere (KCMG 1955, GBE 1985); died 22 March 1996.

## Professor Sir John Golding

For most of his professional life, John Golding worked as an orthopaedic surgeon in the West Indies, where he became a household name, not only for his surgical ability, but also for his considerable contribution to the care of the disabled in Jamaica.

For this work the Jamaican government awarded him the Certificate of Distinction in 1974, and in 1980 its highest honour, the Order of Jamaica. He was only the second expatriate to receive such an honour.

Within a year of his arriving in Jamaica, to open a new department of orthopaedics at the then University College of the West Indies in 1953, Golding was caught up in the worst epidemic of poliomyelitis ever experienced on the island, af-

fecting over 1,000 children. He organised the surgical treatment, set up rehabilitation facilities and, as a result of his earlier connection with the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital in the UK, was able to draw upon the expertise of their surgical workshops, the manager of whom was temporarily seconded to the island to set up arrangements for the making of remedial splints.

Following the polio epidemic Golding went on to develop a rehabilitation centre and a school for the disabled. That centre, now known as the Mona Rehabilitation Centre, is still the only major centre for the rehabilitation of the disabled in the whole of the Caribbean. For this work, and for the development of orthopaedic surgery in the

West Indies, he was appointed OBE in 1959.

His untiring work for the disabled continued for the next three decades, his meticulous surgery being followed by intensive rehabilitation and, finally, work resettlement. He inspired the development of wheelchair sports in Jamaica, which resulted in impressive results in the Paralympics, and one of his last projects was to establish a unique outpatient Hospice Pain Centre.

John Golding was born in London in 1921, educated at Marlborough College and Cambridge. He graduated at the Middlesex Hospital, London, in 1944. After a period in the RAMC he obtained the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of England in 1948

and returned to the Middlesex as a postgraduate from 1948. He spent two years at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, London, before moving to Jamaica.

In 1955 he was appointed the Princess Alice Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of the West Indies, a post which he held until his retirement in 1988.

Golding's academic and professional achievements were impressive. In 1956 he was awarded an ABC Travelling Fellowship to America and Canada, and in the same year gave a Hunterian Lecture at the Royal College of Surgeons of England on the subject of sickle-cell disease in bone - a condition which was little understood at the time, but has

since grown to be of considerable importance. He wrote many scientific papers and was a recognised expert on orthopaedic abnormalities and disease to be found in the Caribbean and elsewhere in tropical countries. He was a founder member of World Orthopaedic Congress, and its Secretary-General in the early 1980s. For his outstanding contribution to orthopaedics throughout the world he was knighted in 1986.

In Golding's address to the British Medical Association meeting in Jamaica in 1974 he quoted some lines from William Cowper which perhaps do more than anything to sum up his own philosophy about medicine in general and orthopaedics in particular:

Knowledge and Wisdom, far from being one,  
Have oft times no connection.  
Knowledge dwells  
In beads replete with thoughts of other men,  
Wisdom in minds attentive to their own.  
Knowledge is proud that he has learned so much,  
Wisdom is humble that he knows no more.

J. N. Wilson

John Simon Russon Golding, orthopaedic surgeon; born London 15 April 1921; OBE 1959; Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, University of the West Indies 1953-65; Princess Alice Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery (Emeritus) 1965-96; CD 1974; OJ 1980; K 1986; married 1961 Patricia Levy (one son, one daughter); died Kingston, Jamaica 25 March 1996.



Wokefield: gentle humour

## Births, Marriages & Deaths

### BIRTHS

CITLUM: On 20 March, to Julie and Mark a son, and to James a brother, Harry George.  
GALLWEY: On 9 March 1996, at Mount Elizabeth Hospital, Singapore, to Graham and Nina, a daughter, Anne MacKenzie, a sister for James, Guy and Fiona.

JUDDS: On 19 March, to Caroline (née Fernan) and Thomas, a daughter, Helen Victoria Anne.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding announcements, In Memoriam) should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, telephoned to 0171-293 0131 or faxed to 0171-293 0188, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette announcements (funerals, marriages, forthcoming marriages, Funerals) must be submitted in writing (for second) and are charged at £10 a line (VAT extra). They should be accompanied by a daytime telephone number.

### ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

TODAY: Prince Edward, Chairman, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Special Project Group, attends "Jewels": the Special Project Challenge for 1996, at Grosvenor Palace, near Piccadilly, Chelsea, London SW1A 1AA. The Duke of York, Chairman, The Duke of York's Award Special Project Group, attends the 300th Anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne, at the Royal Ulster Hall, Belfast.

### Changing of the Guard

TODAY: The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment escorts the Queen's Life Guard at Buckingham Palace, 11am. The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment escorts the Queen's Life Guard at Buckingham Palace, 11am. The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment escorts the Queen's Life Guard at Buckingham Palace, 11am.

### Birthdays

TODAY: Mr John Allen, former Principal, Central School of Speech and Drama, 84; Lord Armstrong of Ilminster, former Secretary to the Cabinet, 69; Miss Sarah Badel, actress, 53; Mr Warren Beatty, actor, 59; Lord Browne-Wilkinson, a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary, 66; Mr Eric Clapton, rock guitarist, 51; Mr John Coates, royal architect, 74; Miss Sue Cook, television presenter, 47; Mr Robert Davidson, author, publisher and former diplomat, 72; Mr Graham Edge, rock musician, 53; Mr George Elson, former Chief Constable, Dumfries and Galloway, 54; Professor Leonard Foster, former Schröder Professor of German, Cambridge University, 83; Professor Sir Ernst Gombrich, art historian, 87; Sir John Gray, marine biologist, 78; Mr Rolf Harris, entertainer, 66; Professor Tony Honoré, former Regius Professor of Civil Law, Oxford, 75; Mr John Jennings, chairman, Shell Transport and Trading Co, 58; Professor Ron Johnston, Professor of Geography, Bristol University, 78; Mr Nigel Jones MP, 48; Mr Frankie Laine, singer, 83; Mr Bernard Lym, former chairman, UDS Group, 83; Sir Ian MacLaurin, chairman, Tesco, 59; Mr Piers Morgan, Editor, Daily Mirror, 31; Lord Rayner, former chairman, Marks and Spencer, 70; Mr Tom Sharpe, novelist and historian, 68; The Countess of Sutherland, 75; General Sir Richard Tait, former Quarter Master General, 68; Sir John Wells, former MP, 71; Professor Arie Zuckerman, Dean, Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, 64.

TOMORROW: Mr Herb Alpert, musician, 61; Professor Patrick Bateson, Provost of King's College, Cambridge, 58; Mr Richard Chamberlain, actor, 62; Mr Sydney Chaplin, actor, 70; Mr Robbie Coltrane, actor, 46; Mr Alan Duncan MP, 39; Mr Don Foster MP, 49; Mr John Fowles, novelist, 70; Miss Shirley Jones, actress, 62; Mr John Kemp-Welch, Chairman, Stock Exchange, 60; Mr Richard Killey, actor, 74; Sir Pat Lowry, former President, Institute of Personnel Management, 76; Sir Derek Pugh, former Secretary-General, General Synod of the Church of England, 66; Air Commodore Helen Renton, former Director, WRAC, 65; The Right Rev John Roberts, former Abbot of Downside, 73; Mrs Daphne Robertson, Sheriff of Glasgow and Strathclyde, 59; Professor Dame Sheila Sherlock, Professor of Medicine, Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, 78; Sir Derek Spencer QC MP, Solicitor-General, 66; Sir John Steel MP, 58; Lord Tebague, former government minister, 85; Professor Sir Frederick Warner, chemical engineer, 86; Mr Sidney Weighell, former trade union leader, 74; Mr Nicholas Winterton MP, 58.

Anniversaries  
TODAY: Births: Paul Verlaine, poet, 1844; Vincent Van Gogh, painter, 1853; Sean O'Casey, playwright, 1880. Deaths: William Huie, anatomist, 1783; George Bryan "Beau" Brummel, dandy, 1840; Rudolf Steiner, social philosopher, 1925; Ayesha Middleton Sheffield Neave MP, killed 1979; James Cagney, actor, 1960. On this day: President Ronald Reagan was shot in the chest by an assassin, 1981. Today is the Feast Day of St John the Evangelist, St Leonard, St Rieul or Regulus and St Zosimus of Syracuse.

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Bagnold (Lady Jones), novelist, 1981. On this day: the Elfin Tower was inaugurated, Paris 1889; the Church in Wales was disestablished, 1920; Hampton Court Palace was badly damaged by fire, 1986. Tomorrow is the Feast Day of St Acacius or Acathius, St Bulfinch, St Benjamin and St Guy of Pomposia.

Lectures  
TODAY  
Tate Gallery: Laurence Bradbury, "After Cézanne", 1pm; Pavel Machotka, "Cézanne: landscape into art", 3.30pm.  
National Portrait Gallery: Elizabeth Allen, "George Romney: a neglected master?", 3pm.

TOMORROW  
National Portrait Gallery: Paul Webb, "Edgar Wallace: writer of thrillers and plays", 3pm.

Byron Society  
Mr John Burton, Director of the Royal Shakespeare Company, held a Dialogue with the Byron Society yesterday evening at the Royal Institution of Great Britain, on his production of Lord Byron's *Cain*. Dr Peter Cochran was the chairman. Mr Louise Bolton, Mr John Carlisle, Mr Michael Fox, Lord Gilmore of Craig Miller and Lady Renoult also spoke.

Durham University  
Former students of the University of Durham (including King's, Armstrong and teacher training colleges) should have received the Spring Edition (No. 3) of *Durham First*, the University of Durham's magazine. Anyone who has not done so is invited to contact the Development Office, Old Shire Hall, Durham DH1 3HF, for despatch of a copy (or telephone 0191-374 4622).

## A new life for Jenny Rous-Twyte

When the hour strikes, and they pass the buckets and the credit-card machines around in evangelical meetings, I now-days hand over a pledge card filled out in the name of Jenny Rous-Twyte. I imagine her as a county woman, pearly rather than twin-setted, with good teeth and clothes, who keeps a preoccupied eye on her husband at cocktail parties. Jenny signed a pledge card when Rodney Howard-Browne, a South African now based in Florida, brought his version of the Toronto Blessing to Earls Court last November, and he's been sending her brochures every month since then.

No one who has not read one of these catalogues could possibly imagine how many ways there are to merchandise a miracle. There are taped sermons sets 10 hours from one of his summer shows in Kentucky in 1994 reduced to £15 the set; or the same shows are recorded on 14 videos, available for £150. Then there are the books, the music cassettes, and the invitations to this year's shows. The economics of modern fundamentalist Christianity cannot be understood without taking such merchandising into account. By promising (mendaciously) to spend £10, Jenny has got herself on to a mailing list for life, or at least until the rapture. No doubt, if she starts spending money, she will get carefully graduated appeals for more and more, as supporters of Morris Cerullo do.

If she sends Howard-Browne \$350, he will send the 50 videos which has back catalogue to the mission country of her choice. It doesn't matter whether they speak English there: "We have many firsthand reports of the Revival breaking out among groups of people who were watching an English version of the videos who

## faith & reason

Fundamentalism is not what the religions of the modern world need to succeed, argues Andrew Brown. Instead, they must aim to envelop believers entirely, no matter what beliefs they teach.

did not understand a single word that was being spoken." One of the signs of revival with which Rodney is chiefly associated is uncontrollable laughter in his audiences. Then there are the invitations to learn how to perform miracles like Rodney: or, as he puts it, "[Students] will know how to continue to flow in the Anointing they have received in this Great Revival." This is a five-week residential course: tuition costs \$1,000 "IN FULL IN ADVANCE". As the brochure puts it in capital letters, for fear of ambiguity: and students must find their own board and lodging. They are also expected to rent their own cars, and as a preliminary test of faith. "Teachers and courses will be announced at a later date."

This sort of stuff is usually described as "fundamentalism", both by its defenders and the rest of the world. Certainly, Howard-Browne constantly refers back to proof-texts. Many of his videos are based around a single verse in the Bible. But calling it fundamentalism misses its power and novelty. The Bible is too rich and diverse

a book for "fundamentalism" to be a word that predicts any particular sort of behaviour.

The essential thing about Howard-Browne, Morris Cerullo, Paul Yonggi Cho, and all the vast tribe of miracle-working Protestants now swarming round the globe, is not that they have returned to the Bible - a doubtful and ambiguous claim - but that they are trying to build forms of Christianity which will enclose the believers in an integrated world. It is not enough to be born again; you must be reborn into an entirely Christian world, filled with Christian videos, Christian holidays, Christian music, Christian yellow pages, and so on, as well as innumerable services and Bible study groups. The important thing is that no part of life should be autonomous and lived on unbeliever's terms. That is why a strict sexual code is important in growing religions, it hardly matters what this code should be provided only that it is strict enough.

All this seems an enormous distance from the Church of England. But the distance is diminishing. The successful churches all around the world are inclusive in this way. They demand more discipline and less sophistication: they are constantly trying to withdraw into self-contained moral communities. This is the model that all the mainstream churches are moving towards. It may even turn out to be the kind of moral community that Alasdair MacIntyre concluded that we need at the end of his hugely influential *After Virtue*. And if it does, there will be nothing to do but sit down and weep with laughter as we had all been zapped, along with Jenny Rous-Twyte, at a Howard-Browne evangelical meeting.

Peter Burton

Thomas Wakefield, writer; born Cannock Chase, Staffordshire 13 December 1955; died London 26 March 1996.



# THE IKEA KITCHEN. FAVOURERD BY BANK MANAGERS AND ACCOUNTANTS EVERYWHERE.

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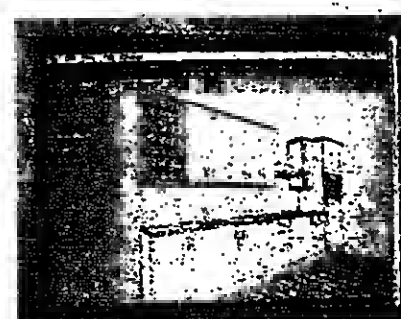
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